

HONGKONG TELEGRAPH
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The Hongkong Telegraph.

TODAY'S WEATHER: Light or moderate SE winds, cloudy with clearance during the afternoon. Misty tonight.
Noon observations: barometric pressure 1013.6 mbs. 29.93 ins; temperature 72.1 deg. F; dew point 68 deg; humidity 93 per cent; wind direction E; wind force 12 knots.

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Germany Now Split In Two

Admission By Sir Brian Robertson

Berlin, Apr. 7.—The Allied officials who heard General Sir Brian Robertson, the British Military Governor, tell Germans in Duessoldorf today that the East-West split of their country is "a fact for the time being" expect important Western decisions on Germany's future, on or about April 10, the next date for a Control Council meeting.

While the Germans themselves showed mixed response to the general's speech, some feeling that it had come too late to make much difference, Anglo-American authorities interpreted it as a definite preparation for the territorial and economic partition of the country.

An indication that the negotiations for the integration of the French Zone into Bizonia may have reached an advanced stage was seen in the visit of M. Maurice Couve de Murville, Director-General of Political Affairs at the French Foreign Office, to Berlin.

M. de Murville's explanation that his visit was purely social met with almost universal scepticism among observers, who recalled that three-power talks have been going on unbroken at lower levels since the London tripartite conference.

With three days to go, no action has yet been taken to call a meeting of the four-power Allied Control Council, which last met on March 20, when the Russians walked out.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS

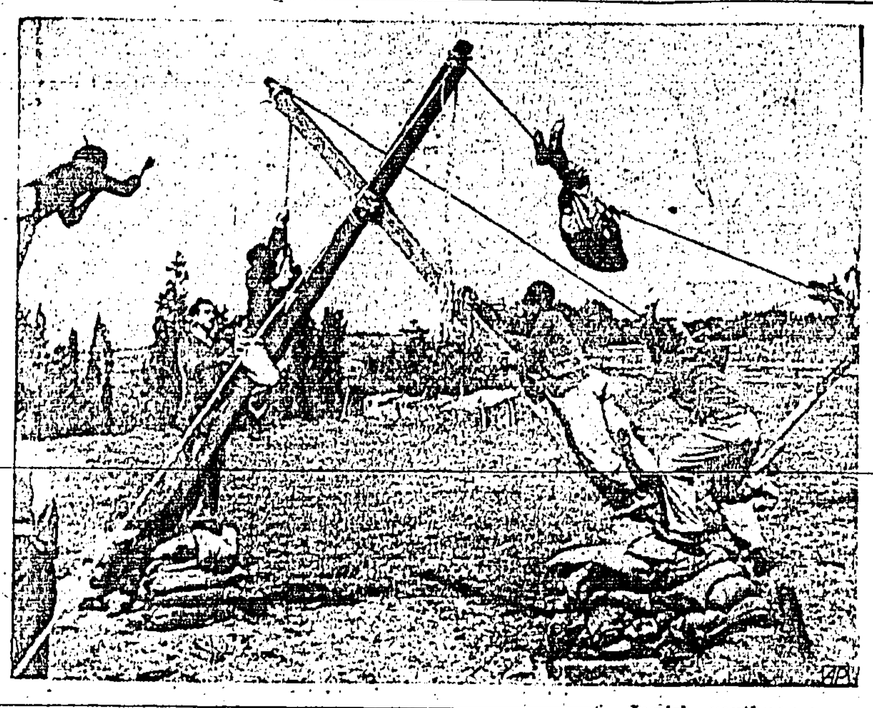
In Duesseldorf, the North Rhine Westphalia State Parliament tonight adjourned without debating the speech of General Robertson earlier today.

Professor Noelting, Minister of Economics of North Rhine Westphalia, said if the speech had been made a year ago, "it would have effected wonders." Now, however, people want to hear something definite on economic questions affecting the Ruhr.

In Frankfurt, Herr Herbert Kreidemann, leader of the Social Democrats in the Bizonal Council, said General Robertson's speech showed "the courage required today for the defenders of freedom."

He said no Germans would ever stop working for the unity of the whole of Germany, but unity would only come "as the fruit of a political struggle". He added that Germans could only become full partners in a common European effort by regaining their statehood.—Reuter.

Haganah In Training



Jewish youths, new recruits of the Palestine defence organisation Haganah, climb up and along ropes in a training camp at an undisclosed spot in Palestine. This is part of the three-week, intensive training course through which the men are put before being assigned to protect Jewish settlements against Arab attacks.—AP Wirephoto.

Strong Criticism Of Investment Levy

DALTON ANNOYS OPPOSITION

London, Apr. 7.—Sir Stafford Cripps' imposition of a special levy on income investments was the main target for criticism by the Opposition in the House of Commons today when the debate on the Budget was resumed.

The chief Opposition speaker today, Mr. Harry Crookshanks, a former Financial Secretary of the Treasury, said this "capital levy" would have a bad effect upon savings.

It would be advantageous to the "financial spiv" who had kept his money liquid as against genuine thrifty savers.

It was discriminatory and bad in an anti-inflationary budget, because it could only be paid for by liquifying capital.

Dr Hugh Dalton, Sir Stafford's predecessor as Chancellor, drew protests from the Opposition by alleging that there had been "a conspiracy in certain quarters" to frustrate the Government's cheap money policy and to try to force down the gilt edge market about the time when the nationalised transport and electricity stock was coming on to the market.

When the Conservatives demanded a withdrawal of that assertion, Dr Dalton declared: "If skins are tender, I will say there were Members of Parliament who co-operated with a view to lowering the national credit and raising the rate of interest which the Government would have to pay for new loans."

WANTS CAPITAL LEVY

Dr Dalton suggested that where more than £1,000,000 of investible funds was held outside a particular business, it should be required to invest a certain proportion in gilt edged securities.

Dr Dalton did not think even such a measure would be enough to reduce the "enormous burden" of the national debt interest within a reasonable time.

"There is only one straightforward and satisfactory way of dealing with this matter and that is a capital levy on a substantial scale.

"I have never been shaken in the view that this is the most just and effective way of dealing with the dead weight burden of debt of this magnitude in a time of peace."

Sir Stafford, in reply to a question, said the number of people who would pay the special investment levy was 140,000.

The debate was adjourned until tomorrow.—Reuter.

THE "GRIM FACT"

London, Apr. 7.—The "grim fact" that emerges from Sir Stafford Cripps's Budget is that in the immediate future Britain is completely dependent on the United States, Mr Oliver Stanley, declared tonight in a broadcast giving the Conservative Opposition view.

Mr Stanley declared: "With Marshall aid, if we skimp and save and sweat and struggle, we may be able to avoid further cuts. Without Marshall aid, nothing could have avoided cuts so disastrous as to upset all our hopes and all our lives."

He told listeners: "Your standard of life, your security of employment, your social services—all you value—you could not have today except by the generosity of people in the United States."

Mr Stanley criticised the additional taxes on beer, tobacco and betting, which, he said, could have been avoided if the Government had chosen instead to cut expenditure by 5d in the pound.—Reuter.

ABANDONED HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Lives In Danger

Cairo, Apr. 7.—The lives of about 1,000 abandoned patients were reported to be in danger tonight in two Cairo hospitals, where 1,500 striking male nurses had sucessfully held out in a violent struggle with armed police.

Press reports here said the striking nurses at the Kasr El Ainy and Fuad El Awal Hospitals had quit their posts for the rooftops.

There they threw down showers of stones and buckets of water on the heads of besieging police, who opened fire. Some of the nurses were wounded.

TROOPS CALLED OUT

Egyptian troops and armoured cars were called after the police had used tear gas and had failed to break the defence.

The nurses, who went on strike last night, demanding higher wages, electrified and locked all the hospital doors, preventing doctors and surgeons from entering the hospital.

The strikers refused to discuss the situation with the Minister of Public Health, saying that they would be prepared to listen only to a representative of King Farouk, or the Prime Minister.—Reuter.

Arab-Jew Battle Near Plains Of Armageddon

Truce Talks Hitch

With the Yarmuk army in Northern Palestine, Apr. 7.—Arabs and Jews are still battling tonight in the first offensive of organised Arab armies against outlying Jewish settlements.

The battle, now in its third day, followed a Yarmuk army attack with artillery and rifles on Mishmar Haemek (Guardian of the Emek Valley) at the edge of the Plains of Armageddon.

Neither side is militarily effective at the moment but the Arabs would take these isolated settlements with ease if they could erase the conflict in their command.

The British authorities are not in a position to interfere with either the Arab attacks or the Jewish counter attacks.

The Yarmuk Army commander, Fawzi Bey Kaukhji, sent an ultimatum today to all the Jewish Palestine calling "surrender or we will wipe you out."

At his mountain top headquarters in Northern Palestine, Fawzi Bey told the Associated Press "we are now in the second phase of our operation in Palestine. Unless the Jews surrender we will launch general field operations to wipe them out."

The actual attack on Mishmmar Haemek was directed by a middle-aged professional soldier, Col. Mohammed Bey Mahdi, a native of Anu in Iraq. He was once on the staff of Lawrence of Arabia and later fought with the Germans in the second world war. — Associated Press.

VILLAGES "OCCUPIED"

Jerusalem, Apr. 7.—The Palestine Government announced today that Haganah forces "occupied" two Arab villages on the Jewish lifeline between Jerusalem and the coast.

The announcement said the Haganah seized the Arab villages of Huldn and Der Mehsin on the stretch of highway between Gaza and Latroun. These villages had been a major stumbling block to transport of Jewish food and material from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem.

They were occupied, according to the announcement, just four days after Haganah seized Castel, another Arab community which had been used as a point for Arab raids against Jewish convoys.

The Government report said fighting was going on at Der Mehsein, but details were not available.

It was believed the seizure of the towns furthered Haganah's plan to occupy half a score of Arab villages along the highway.

The British Army's attitude to this is not clear beyond the British reiteration that the status quo would be preserved until May 15.—United Press.

TRUCE TALKS HITCH

Lake Success, Apr. 7.—A hitch occurred in the Arab-Jewish truce talks, it was understood tonight, after the Arab and Jewish representatives had earlier agreed to meet the President of the Security Council, Dr Alfonzo Lopez, of Colombia, to discuss a truce in Palestine.

It was originally intended that both parties should meet around a table with the Security Council President, but it was inferred that separate talks were suggested by the Arabs.

When the Arab and Jewish representatives arrived, Jamal El Husseini saw Dr Lopez privately, after which the President suggested he should meet both parties separately.

Moshe Shertok, for the Jewish Agency, objected as he thought the idea was to have round table talks, whereupon Dr Lopez retired to another room with the Arabs.

Jamal El Husseini is the Deputy President of the Arab Higher Committee.

Britain had indicated that she would be willing to attend the truce talks if invited.

TWO MAIN POINTS

The discussion at today's informal meeting of the Security Council delegates, which was attended by the Ukrainian delegate, but not by M. Andrei Gromyko, of Russia, centred on two main points:

1.—A truce in Palestine.

2.—The importance of establishing principles on which nations should be chosen to implement the partition by force if required.

Mr Warren Austin, for the United States, emphasised the importance of getting co-operation from Britain in the truce talks, as he said it was particularly vital to know what Britain would do to implement a truce between now and May 15, when the mandate ends.

No specific proposals were made today about the implementation of a truce after May 15, as it was understood the Security Council delegates would wait until Dr Lopez's negotiations were further advanced.

The delegates present agreed to think over the principles which should govern the choice of powers which might eventually have to enforce the trusteeship agreement with their own armies.

A United States spokesman said his delegation had not put forward any principles and was waiting for other countries to make suggestions.

FRENCH POSITION

The French delegation to the United Nations made clear its position on the proposal for trusteeship for Palestine after today's discussions. M. Alexandre Parodi said the trusteeship idea held three main difficulties—(1), the United Nations must be assured that any new Assembly decision will not again run the risk of not being applicable; (2) the United Nations must achieve some agreement between Arabs and Jews on the question of immigration "in order to avoid the tragic consequences which may result from the absence of regulations when the mandate ends; (3) the maintenance of law and order cannot be left solely to the Governor-General of Palestine."

M. Parodi added that should these difficulties not be covered by an accurate and detailed document before May 15, "it is only too probable that actual fighting will become more violent and even degenerate into massacres, the responsibility for which the United Nations could not elude." For these reasons, the French delegation believed the American 15-point trusteeship plan required "fuller study."—Reuter.



HAROLD STASSEN

Stassen Wins Wisconsin Primaries

At Expense Of Dewey And MacArthur

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Apr. 7.—Harold E. Stassen today upset General MacArthur and Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York in the important Wisconsin Presidential primary election.

With votes counted in 2,315 of the state's 3,138 precincts the balloting split the state's 27 Republican Convention delegates this way—Stassen 21, MacArthur six and Dewey zero.

Governor Thomas Dewey's campaign for the Republican Presidential nomination was hurt, perhaps fatally, today by returns from the Wisconsin preferential primary election. Wisconsin, which propelled Dewey toward the Presidential nomination in 1944, let him down badly in yesterday's voting. Dewey ran last in the three-man contest for Wisconsin Convention delegates.

Harold E. Stassen won and became an unpredictable factor in the Republican pre-convention politics. Stassen won a spectacular triumph.

General Douglas MacArthur was placed second. The man of Bataan ran behind expectations. His Presidential stock was slumping today. Wisconsin's voters were not greatly impressed by the fact that MacArthur was a native son.

FREE-FOR-ALL

Also entered in that free-for-all political contest are Senator Robert Taft of Ohio, Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan, Speaker Joseph W. Martin of Massachusetts and Governor Earl Warren of California. Nebraska will have 15 delegates to the Republican Convention.

Stassen could jar Republican regulars with a Nebraska showing comparable to the Wisconsin victory.

Taft as well as Dewey would be set back severely if Stassen shut them out there. Taft's managers have had to accept Nebraska as the primary testing ground of Taft's strength outside his home state. The damage to Dewey's Presidential aspirations is more in the loss of prestige than the Wisconsin delegates.

Simultaneously with the Wisconsin polling the big New York state elected 90 Dewey delegates to the National Convention.—United Press.



GEN. MACARTHUR

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EDITORIAL

Sir Stafford's Budget

SIR Stafford Cripps's estimates for the 1948-9 financial year have been described as a "restricted pleasures budget."—an apt enough phrase when it is realised that the British taxpayer will have to pay more than ever for his beer, wines, spirits, tobacco and football pools. These, it would seem, the Chancellor of the Exchequer considers to be the chief contributors to the nation's inflation, although he discovers another element—rash spending of income from investments which he proposes to deal with by imposing a levy on all such incomes from £250 upwards. To the taxpayer, these are the distasteful and depressing features of the budget. Sir Stafford, however, has sought to soften the blow by income tax concessions which will make half a million wage-earners free of direct taxation, and will also materially reduce the tax levels of the "middle class" workers. This smacks somewhat of paying back Peter after robbing Paul, and it is not easy to appreciate just how the procedure will stop Britain's dangerous inflationary trend. The attempt to discourage heavy spending on what Sir Stafford regards as unessentials like tobacco, beer and spirits by making them more costly to the customer is surely going to be offset by giving the people more spending money through eliminated and reduced direct taxation. Rather more to the point is his decision to modify and simplify the Purchase Tax. As the Chancellor quite rightly points out where this tax exceeds 100 percent the goods are diverted into the black market giving them the false value of so-called scarce commodities which materially contributes to inflation. But after all his concessions involving loss of revenue, Sir Stafford is still able to estimate a surplus of $700 million which he apparently wishes to use for debt repayment and capital expenditure rather than additional relief for the taxpayer. This may be a little hard on the people, but it has the merit of being realistic budgetting. Another object seems to be to build up a huge surplus through which inflation can be combatted. One commentator explains that Sir Stafford has adopted a more austere criterion for the budget surplus, insisting that the "real" surplus comprise what is left after both capital and current expenditure has been met. Normally this would be regarded as an unnecessarily ruthless form of budgetting, inasmuch that generally a proportion of capital expenditure is covered by borrowing. In paying for capital expenditure from current taxation, the Chancellor is adopting the principal of "Pay As We Go" designed to avoid interest burdens for the future. It is a bold conception for bringing the country once again into complete solvency, and one which cannot be prejudged. Even Mr Churchill hesitates to condemn it outright, contenting himself with "doubting" whether the budget will meet the real difficulties or to apply the right remedies. It can therefore be said that while Sir Stafford Cripps's first budget may not be wholly appetising, it deserves to be rated as clever and imaginative.

Aneurin Bevan 'Talks Turkey' To Dissatisfied Physicians

London, Apr. 7.—He was willing to "banish for good" the apprehension of the British medical profession that, through its National Health Act, coming into effect on July 5, the Labour Government intended to produce a fulltime salaried State medical service, the Minister of Health, Mr Aneurin Bevan, announced in Parliament today.

He accepted a suggestion of the Royal College of Physicians, a prominent medical corporation which has consistently opposed the Health Act, that Parliament should make it impossible for doctors to become fulltime salaried servants of the State without that specific consent of Parliament.

An expert legal committee will be set up, Mr Bevan said, to advise him on the disputed effect of the Act on partnership agreements.

A short clarifying bill might be needed as a result of the committee's inquiries.

The Health Minister's statement brings to a climax a long battle between the medical profession, represented chiefly by the British Medical Association, and the Ministry of Health.

A large majority of doctors had voted in a country-wide plebiscite that they would not take part in the State Health Service under the terms of the Act as it stands at present.

Making still another concession to the doctors, Mr Bevan announced that if they were afraid of "sinister intentions" in the Government's provision for a £300 a year fixed minimum in remuneration, new entrants to practice could have the advantage of this minimum for about three years and then decide individually whether they would forego it and pass to a system of plain capitation fees.

A spokesman of the BMA said the Executive Committee would meet tomorrow to consider Mr Bevan's statement.—Reuter.

Mae's Invitation Accepted

London, Apr. 7.—Thieves accepted Mae West's famous invitation, came up to her dressing room in a London Theatre, and walked out with jewellery she valued at between £2,000 and £3,000, the American actress told the police in Tuesday night.

Mae, appearing in London in her own production of "Diamond Lil," said the robbery probably occurred shortly before the evening performance.—Associated Press.

Reynolds Gives Away His Plane

Honolulu, Apr. 7.—Explorer Milton Reynolds has given his US$125,000 plane to his pilot Bill Odom with no strings attached.

The millionaire penmaker disclosed this today as Odom and his crew flew toward Chicago. Reynolds summed up his recent escapade in China, where he left behind irate scientists who were to participate in a planned aerial search for the world's highest mountain:

"I am like a small boy with air rifles. I get into mischief."—Associated Press.

this week's
NEW GOODS

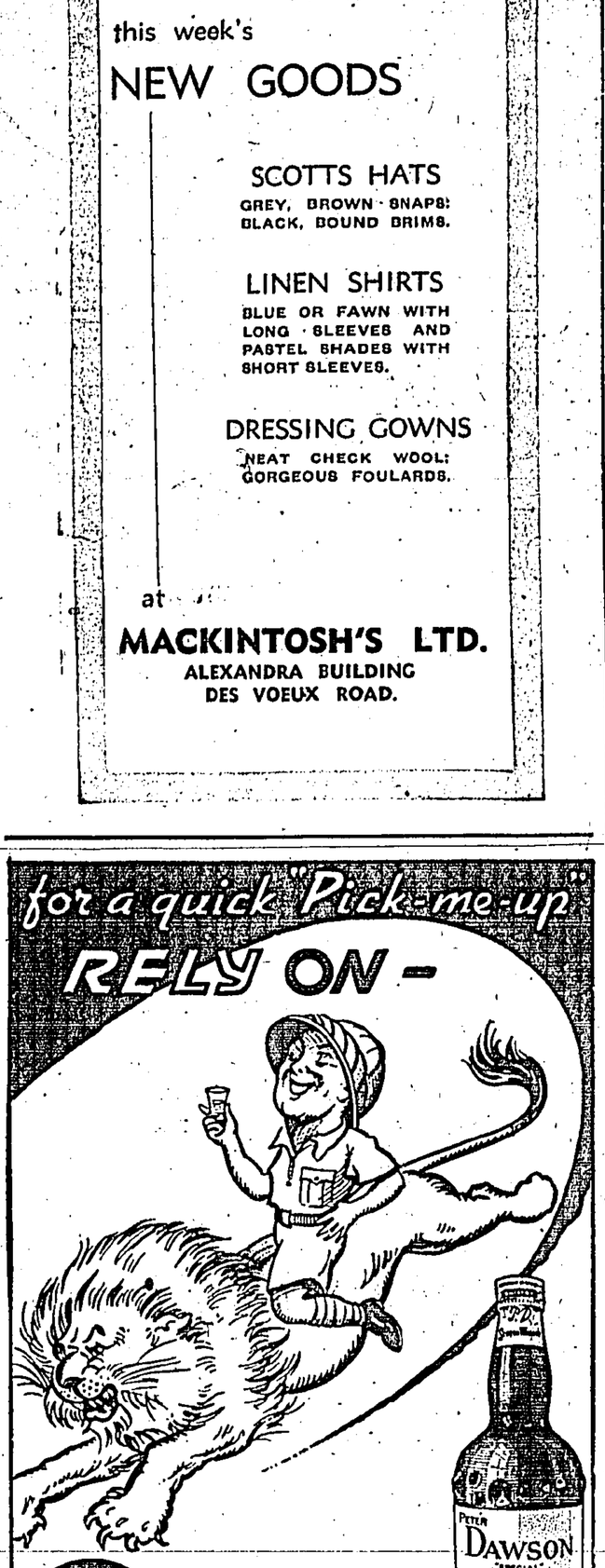
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WOMANSENSE

Fine Figure Flatterer



Attractive dress for afternoon wear.

By VERA WINSTON

For afternoon functions, this is a nice dress for the woman who goes places and who likes to be well dressed but not over dressed. The skirt, of black crepe, is draped over the hips, with nice detail in the looped effect through which the drapery appears to be pulled. The pretty bodices is of white crepe which has been hand painted in vivid colours.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Tole objects (painted metal) may be cleaned by a solution of one part of turpentine to ten parts of mineral oil. Apply with a soft cloth and wipe thoroughly with a clean, soft cloth.

* * *

To get rid of musty odour in the cellar or basement, sprinkle a little chloride of lime on the floor. As soon as the mustiness disappears, sweep up the lime and scrub the the floor.

* * *

When sprinkling clothes for ironing, wrap the coloured pieces carefully in waxed paper to keep them from fading on the white clothes.

SILHOUETTES mark Paris Spring styles

By SALLY GRAM SWING

PARIS—Pierre Balmain, one of Paris' top designers, has pulled two new silhouettes out of his fashion bag for spring.

One, a gently wide silhouette, is achieved by tiers, or "ripples" as he likes to call them, short capes, and long, rather full peplums on suit jackets.

Nowhere is there a plethora of material. Pierre Balmain has just returned from America, and there he saw that women led too vigorous lives to put up with skirts 15 yards wide.

The other, cut specially to hug the knees and hips, is called the "half bias" silhouette.

In coats, the slim shape took two trends, one a very thin redingote, with tiny pleated godets in back. The other, warn specially for evening, was slim at the bottom, but had a wide collar which hung down the back in a large fold.

Tailored suits were practical, with finger-tip jackets slightly flared, pinched-in waists, short revers, and "too short" sleeves. The sleeves were filled out to the wrist with pretty pleated organdy puffs, completed by a lace band around the wrist.

Balmain added many feminine touches. For example, on a close fitting gabardine suit he added a pink satin bow at the waist. Another very becoming idea was the white blouse with the front covered by a pastel chiffon gathered scarf.

Another suit skirt in gray gabardine had a skirt which buttoned up with tiny black pearl buttons like a sailor's pants.

Most interesting material used in the collection was dyed suede leather. Out of it Balmain fashioned two dresses, one with a pleated skirt and a coat.

COLOURS VARIED

A suede dress in cinnamon had a large white piqué collar and cuffs on the three-quarter length sleeves.

For colours, Balmain chose navy and black, often combined, coral white, biege, gray and pale robins egg blue.

Most important trend in the collection as far as future development of styles, according to experts, was his series of straight box jackets with straight skirts. They are directly opposed to the pinched-in waist, hippy look of last year.

The nicest gadget of the collection was a special umbrella which matched some dress material, with a slit in the handle to carry gloves. —United Press.

SHOWING BRITISH

NEW fashion trends have given a fresh importance to corsetry and underwear, and a healthy determination to promote British exports in these fields is evinced by the forthcoming exhibition of collections, organised in the United Kingdom by Miss Thirza West before she sails on May 12 for the Toronto International Fair (May 31-June 12) with garments from houses which she will show on five specially designed stands.

Some of these firms will also be showing at two mannequin parades at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on May 4 and 5 (during the first week of the British Industries Fair) at which a much larger and more comprehensive collection will be seen. Novel methods of presentation are to be employed, and the displays will be filmed.

The collection that Miss Thirza West takes to Toronto ranges from the newest of "new look" corsetry and underwear, through children's clothes and baby linen, housecoats, nightwear and materials, to bathing dresses, and it is expected that a completely new British swimsuit, moulded to the figure, will be one of the sensations of the Fair.

New Trends In Shoe Styles



Courtesy Sole Leather Bureau

Shoes like these, fitting snugly at heels and with trim leather soles, are comfortable walkers.

By HELEN FOLLETT

WHEN you fare forth to buy shoes will your mind be in a chaotic state because you can't decide whether to buy them with closed or open toes? Don't worry. You pay your money, you take your choice. There was considerable hubbub about this matter some months ago when it was rumoured that toes that have been out must be covered. The great minds that solve such problems decided that it would be best to humour the pretty dears, let them pack their trotters in either style.

You will find a bewildering array of designs, colours, and ankle straps. For general wear you may prefer a closed shoe with high heeled platform in black suede, with black leather sole. A more tailored model is offered in a sling-back shoe built upon a trim leather sole that flows in one continuous piece into the breast of the heel. The conservative buyer may find joy in a closed pump with a thin strap around the ankle.

Decorative Elements

As in dress these days, the emphasis is on line rather than ornamentation, so decorative elements are at a premium.

A novelty is the wide ankle strap of leather. It is prevented from being bulky by the opening in the shank.

But don't let your mind dwell entirely upon looks. The shoe should be snug at the heel to prevent rubbing and consequent calloused spots or blisters. Flexible soles are essential to provide firm support and the requisite "give" as you toddle through your day's activities, whether it be running the domestic machine or just pleasantly gadding.

The Beret Beautiful



By ALICE ALDEN

IF there is one hat that is a perennial, that is right for practically every woman, no matter her type, it is the beret. Beautiful in almost any medium, easy to manipulate to suit the face, and hairdo, the beret is set to ride atop the prettiest heads this Spring. This version was designed by Sally Victor and is made of pink sapphire straw, softly draped and manipulated. A graceful wing of matching bright pink feathers curves smoothly out of the folds to lend height in front.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Willy Toad's Wonderful Chair

—It Would Grow Bigger and Bigger—

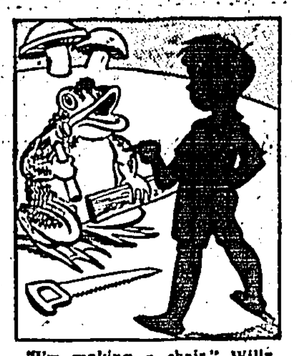
BY MAX TRELL

KNARF, the shadow-boy with the turned-about name, was surprised to find his friend Willy Toad, who usually sat on a toadstool catching flies, busy sawing and hammering.

"What are you doing, Willy? Building a house?"

Willy looked up with a smile. "Ah, my dear fellow," said Willy, putting down his hammer and wiping his brow, "you find your friend Willy at a very important piece of work. Now," he added the next moment, "I'm not building a house. Toads have no need for houses. I'm building something a good deal more useful. I'm building a chair!"

"A chair!" Knarf exclaimed. "What do you need a chair for?"



"I'm making a chair," Willy told Knarf.

"To sit down on," replied Willy, frowning. "What does anyone need a chair for?"

Knarf wondered why Willy Toad needed a chair to sit down on in the middle of the meadow.

In the Meadow

"Well," said Willy, "I just had a talk with my friend Owl. He's a mighty clever bird, you'll admit. He said folks who sat around all day catching flies, ought to have a chair to sit in while they caught them. It's much more comfortable. After I get my chair finished, I'm going to buy myself some books and newspapers and a pipe, and a pair of slippers. There's no reason why I can't make myself as cosy as anyone else while I'm catching flies. It's a great waste of time (and quite tiring, too) standing on this toadstool—or even sitting on it—just looking up at the sky and thinking of nothing in particular."

Knarf asked Willy what he was making the chair out of. "Twigs," said Willy, "and moss on the bottom for a seat. Here—take a look. Isn't it handsome?"

Knarf looked. "Why Willy," he said, "the twigs are still growing in the ground! You can't make a chair out of twigs that are still growing!"

Can't Blow Away

"Why not?" asked Willy. "What's wrong with twigs that are still growing in the ground? They can't blow away, that's all."

"But they'll keep getting bigger and bigger! The chair will get bigger."

"Humph—so will I. It's the best kind of a chair to have—a chair that keeps growing bigger as you get bigger. Yes siree, it takes a toad like me to figure out the right kind of a chair to make! A chair that keeps growing . . . fine, fine!"

And Knarf, walking on at last, thought perhaps Willy was right. Maybe, he thought, all kinds of furniture should grow—and shoes and hats and coats, too.

A BIG WORD AND A BAD HABIT



PROCRASTINATION is a big word, and it's a big, bad habit, too. It means putting off. A good answer to the habit is the old proverb: "Never put off until tomorrow what you should do today."

We all procrastinate at times. We say: "I'll do it tomorrow"—but tomorrow never comes! The only time we can do anything is NOW.

Do things now and you build the habit of being prompt, systematic, and dependable. That will make you popular and successful. You'll get your lessons in on time, your work done well and quickly, and you'll take care of your part in group activities without delay.

When you put things off they pile up on you until there's such a mass of things you should do that you get discouraged. You lose the fun and excitement of accomplishment. There's a lot of truth in the old jingle:

One thing at a time and that done well
Is a very good rule, as many can tell.

But you must do that one thing NOW. Don't let procrastination get you and spoil your fun with its trick of lazy putting off. Beat the habit of procrastination. It isn't easy, but you can do it if you try.

Get the habit of "Do It Now" and you're headed for popularity and success.

DOTTY STORY

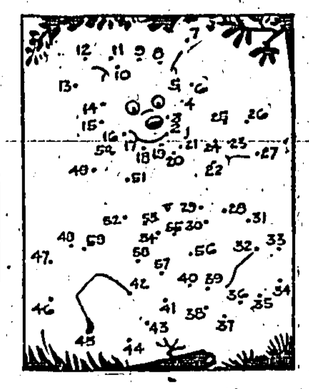
All of the animals in the woods were picking on Rudolph the Rabbit. He only had one friend, the wise old muskrat who lived in the swamp.

"The trouble with you," said the wise old muskrat, "is that you're not fierce enough. You should be such a very wild and savage beast that the other animals will be afraid to pick on you."

So Rudolph ruffed up his fur, bared his teeth and tried to growl. Then he broke down into tears.

"No matter how hard I try," said Rudolph, "I just can't—it!"

Draw lines between the dots, starting with No. 1 and going to No. 2 and so on and you'll see what Rudolph couldn't do.



SONG NAMES

The girl Adeline in the song, "Sweet Adeline," was originally named Rosalee, and the song was "Sweet Rosalee," but the name in the lyric written by Richard Gerard was changed by the composer, Harry Armstrong, so that it would rhyme with "for you I pine."

The old song favourite, "Marguerite," was said to have been inspired by a few notes carelessly played by the composer, C. A. White, when he ran his bow across the violin strings during practice.

Rupert helps Dr. Lion—6



Billy Goat looks disappointed. "The doctor didn't give us any chance to help him," he mutters. "Nobody could find sunshine for him." "And in any case, I must stop and help to take care of Peter," says Ann Doreen, as she prepares to go home again. But Rupert looks thoughtful. "We certainly don't know how to get sunshine," he says, "but there are lots of clever people around who may be able to help Dr. Lion. I've a good mind to ask them and see."

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RED RYDER

No Inflation Here

By Fred Harman



WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



CENTRE OF ATTENTION—"Kissing Jim" Folsom, Governor of Alabama, gives the cameraman a knowing wink as students at a New York school for fashion models crowd around to kiss him. Folsom flew to New York to keep a date with 500 beauties who voted him Number One Leap Year Bachelor.



ITALIAN REDS—Communists at Naples meet colonists returning from Italian Somaliland with placards reading: "Anglo-Americans are responsible for the destruction of your lives." The Communists have stepped up their propaganda campaign in preparation for the April 18 elections.



"SKYHOOK"—That's the name of this new plastic balloon, used for research of the upper atmosphere. Tested near Minneapolis, it is capable of rising 20 miles with a 70-pound load of instruments. The instruments, released under parachutes, float to earth recording temperatures, pressures, cosmic ray intensities, solar radiation and other physical phenomena. (U. S. Navy Photo).



EX-COWBOY TOUCH—Artist Glen Rounds is looking for new walls to conquer. The ex-cowboy-turned-painter thinks the bare outsides of people's homes should reflect the pictorial tastes of the owners, and demonstrates what he means on his own home at Southern Pines, North Carolina.



FUR ASCOT—This silver-blue mink ascot can be worn around the neck as an ascot or over the shoulders as a stole. It was among the furs displayed at a New York showing.



JUMPING THE GUN—Football coach Ray Eliot of the University of Illinois gets an early start with spring training. Here he gives quarterback prospects a work-out.



SOME MUSCLE—With a look of admiration, six-year-old Robert McEllory tests Jersey Joe Walcott's muscles after an exhibition fight in Chicago. Jersey Joe is on tour, tuning up for his coming fight with champion Joe Louis.



FROM THE RUINS—BEAUTY—These young London art students don't have to go far to find material for their sculpture class. They simply pick up blocks of masonry from the rubble of blitzed buildings. Their studio is an old army Nissen hut.



CANDIDATE — Rene Lafitte, 20, a Chicago model, is among those competing for the title of Queen of the Chicago Press Photographers' Association.



TURKISH PEASANTS FLEE FLOODS—Peasants at Adana, Turkey, carry household goods and animals as they try to escape rising flood waters. Heavy rains caused the Seyhan and Ceyhan rivers to overflow their banks. The flood, described as the worst in 50 years, claimed more than 400 lives, wrecked scores of villages and drowned thousands of heads of livestock.

CENTRAL THEATRE

TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.



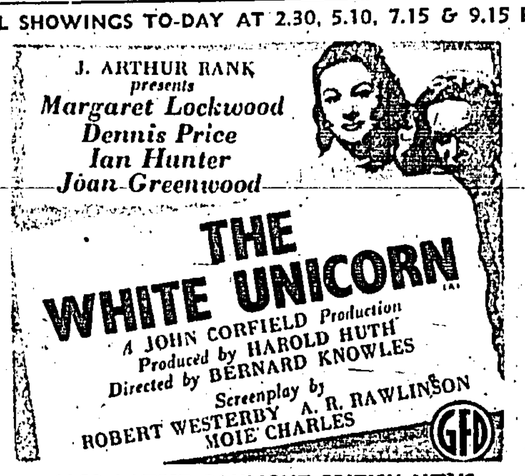
— OPENING TO-MORROW —



LEE THEATRE

ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE—ST. FRANCIS HOTEL
BOOKING HOURS: 11.00 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY

FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

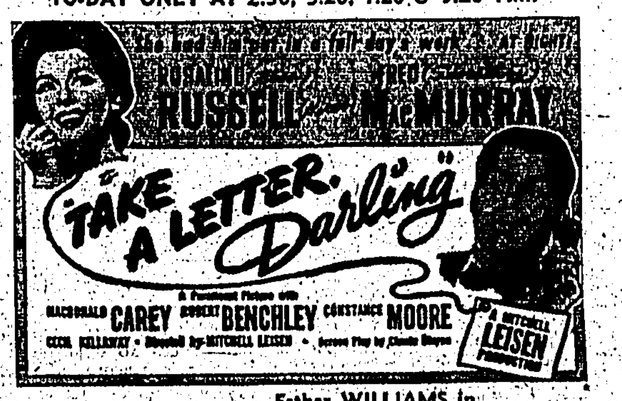


ALSO LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS
— TO-MORROW —



ALHAMBRA THEATRE

TO-DAY ONLY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.



OPENS TO-MORROW ! Esther WILLIAMS in "THIS TIME FOR KEEPS" IN TECHNICOLOR

Sefton Delmer's Newsmap

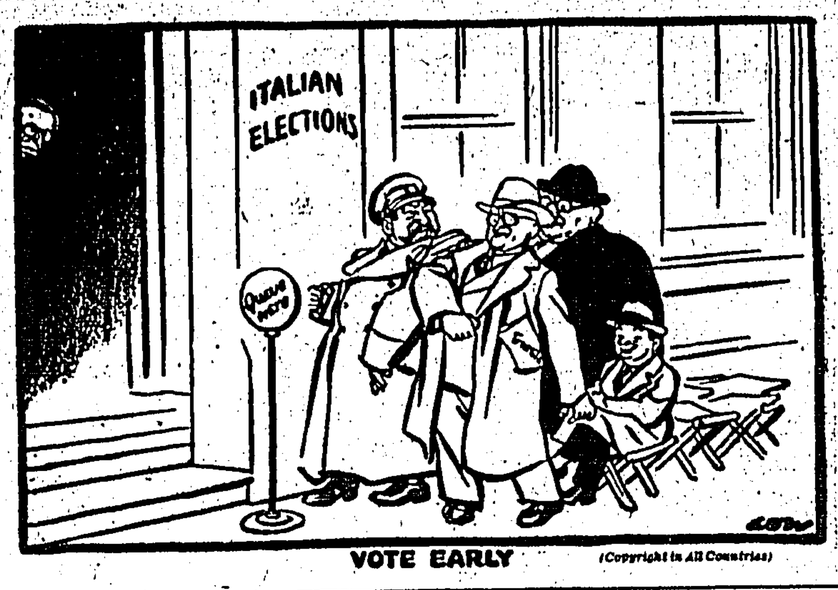
REDS LOOK LIKE LOSING ITALY

ROME: March 22.

HERE I am now in Rome, wiping the snow of Arctic Finland off my boots. I have had to fly halfway around Europe to get here because the Socialised Swedish airways were on strike for more pay from the Government, and I shall probably catch a terrible cold with all these changes in temperature.

But never mind, the contrast between the northern and southern front in the war between Western democracy and Communist totalitarianism is worth a cold.

In Helsinki I left the Finns going about their business outwardly austere and calm as usual. No posters, no fuss, no headlines. "The less said publicly at the moment the better," is the general attitude. But in secret they are laying plans for resistance—should they get Western support.



Here in Rome is it another battle in the same war. But quite a different one. All is excitement. Young men with pots and brushes hourly paste posters on the walls. Cars trundle through the streets printing slogans in yellow paint on the black asphalt with their tyres.

Demonstrators wave their hands in semi-Fascist salutes, rushing through the streets in lorries with blaring loudspeakers.

Airplanes zoom low over the city dropping parachutes with leaflets, or flying long political streamers from their tails. Everywhere there are crowds reading, arguing, and occasionally fighting.

I was in the arcades backing on the Piazza Colonna—a kind of unofficial Hyde Park Corner—when the newsboys arrived with the papers announcing that Britain, France, and the United States had proposed to Stalin that Trieste be restored to Italy. The roar for a Wembley Cup Final goal was nothing to the bellow of triumph from the arcade.

It means votes

COMMUNISTS and Socialists were visibly discomfited. All except one sophisticated young man with a light yellow trenchcoat and an appreciation of traditional Italian diplomacy.

"You see," he said to his friends, "how valuable it is to have a strong Communist Party in Italy. You watch, they will give us back our colonies yet if we can keep them worried about the Communists. I shall certainly vote for the Popular Front now."

But that does not seem to be the reaction of most of the people, or of the Popular Front leaders, particularly of those on the Socialist side. They are clearly put out and are doing their best to cry sour grapes.

There is fellow-traveller Nenni in his newspaper, Avanti this morning: "Bidault and the other Westerners are giving us something that costs them nothing."

The Communists denounce the move as a provocation against Russia likely to lead to war. There is no doubt from the way they take it that they expect it to cost them votes.

But please don't imagine that all this means that the Centre and Liberal pro-Western Coalition which now forms the Government will have a walk-over in the elections.

The Communists and Socialists are well organised. They have a disciplined following for their joint party machine among the industrial workers of the trades unions and among the landless peasants.

I am told that they have been winning many new voters in the south, particularly in Apulia and in Sicily, which up to now have always been Conservative strongholds, dominated by the Catholic vote.

The class war slogans, with their promise to distribute among the Have-nots the property of the Haves, have lost none of their appeal.

40% ceiling?

BUT the most optimistic forecast I have heard from objective observers is that the Communist-Socialist Popular Front will collect up to 45 percent. of the seats in the new parliament.

A friend of mine, whose judgment and predictions on Italian affairs I have learned by experience to respect, tells me he is allowing the Popular Front 40 percent. of the total vote.

As for the possibility of Italy becoming a Soviet satellite as the result of a Communist coup, the one thing that I will predict with confidence is that there will not be one.

There will be no Communist coup either before, during, or immediately after the elections. I am convinced of this for two reason:

1. THE Ministry of the Interior and the police force in Italy are neither under Communist control nor infiltrated by Communists—essential requisites for a successful Communist coup of the kind that has established minority dictatorships in the East European countries.

2. THE forces of order at the disposal of the State are strong, numerous, well-equipped, efficient, and loyal. They are much stronger and more self-confident than when I last visited Italy six months ago.

The 600,000 police and carabinieri have in the meantime been mobilised and mechanised.

Detachments of these motorised police troops have been ably disposed over the whole of Italy in the most strategic spots where they might be needed. A symptom of the new power of the police is that they have succeeded in forcing the Communists to surrender vast stores of arms they had built up during the time of the partisan resistance.

They have made arrests in districts that were considered to be Communist-dominated, and which only four months ago it would have been impossible to carry out. They are enforcing the decrees banning the wearing of uniforms by non-military and non-police organisations and the training of unauthorised para-military associations.

All this is a severe blow to the Communist partisans.

THE DRILL

AFTER the elections on April 18 the new parliament meets in May. Its first job will be to elect Speakers for the Upper and Lower Houses.

Next it elects the President of the Republic.

Then the new President of the Republic summons the political leader he thinks most likely to command a majority in parliament and asks him to form a Government.

There are 99 separate political parties and groups in Italy; 23 of them are likely to put up lists for the election.

Crystal-gazing

THERE will be many more moves from both sides in the short period remaining before the election. There may be great changes in the situation. But if I am to hazard a prophecy as to the possible development of this Italian phase of the political war between East and West, it would be:—

The Popular Front will be defeated in the election.

De Gasperi, the present Prime Minister, will form a new Government closely resembling that of to-day.

The Communist trades unions fairly soon after the election will start a wave of strikes aimed at sabotaging and obstructing the new Government and Italian recovery in general.

These strikes will be defeated in much the same way as the Communist strikes in France were defeated.

Under the leadership of anti-Communist Socialists like Lombardo, new non-Communist trades unions will be formed, and these non-Communist unions will assimilate or take in many of the workers who in Italy, like France, are tired of useless political strikes.

Cominform will have lost its second major battle in the West. And the Kremlin will do nothing about it, because it cannot.

Now go ahead and say it—"Delmer, you are a wishful thinker wearing rosy spectacles."

Labour point of view

ERNEST THURTLE, M.P.

MUCH comment has naturally been excited by the United Kingdom Government's decision to remove Communists and Fascists in the Civil Service from positions of special trust.

Normally it is contrary to our practice to consider the political views of civil servants.

My opinion is that this is a protective act which finds justification in the country's recent experiences, and in the prevailing anxiety regarding our security.

* * *

THE problem is really one of dealing with political fanaticism.

Beyond question the vast majority of citizens give first loyalty to their own country. No doubt, also, some Communists and Fascists put loyalty to their country first.

But, unhappily, there are undoubtedly a percentage of these people who are more loyal to their ideology than they are to their country's security.

Such people are highly dangerous, and it is against these that action is directed.

* * *

NOT only during the war was the danger made clear. Since then we have had the remarkable revelations of Communist espionage in Canada.

It is common ground that in time of war risk of betrayal by such warped fanatics cannot be tolerated.

Today the strained international situation is sufficiently akin to war to make the Government feel the need for protective measures against the threat.

In the past ten years we have, in one way and another, learned a great deal, and if the safety of the nation is indeed the supreme law we must accept this mild application of it.

For mild, very mild it is compared with what has happened in countries where totalitarianism has triumphed.

* * *

THE best antidote for anxiety is action. Air raids during the war taught us that simple psychological truth.

That is why the signing of the Brussels Treaty has had a heartening effect upon our people. In a time of disquiet it is a positive act of self-help.

Nobody would contend that the five contracting parties represent a great aggregation of power, as power is now reckoned.

But they are five different peoples who share a belief in the basic rights of man as understood before the rise of dictators, and their coming together is a first step in the task of preserving those rights.

* * *

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S language in welcoming this treaty was extremely significant.

He did not actually underwrite the agreement with a definite pledge of American assistance to maintain it, but he went just as near to this as it was constitutionally possible for him to go.

Indeed, in the face of the emphatic statements of the President and other political leaders in the United States, there cannot be the slightest doubt that America is determined to use her immense resources to defend what remains of freedom in Europe.

And sorely tried Western Europe may well rejoice at so momentous a change of outlook.

119 DAYS ON

HORSE MEAT AND ARMY BISCUITS

By Peter Lovegrove

THE other evening I heard some ex-servicemen talk of the days when a packet of cigarettes cost them 25 shillings, and a dozen matches were auctioned for 13/6d; when their daily diet consisted of four ounces of uncooked horse, an army biscuit, and one pint of tainted water, stiff with typhoid germs.

They talked of Long Tom of Pepworth Hill, of the howitzers on Surprise Hill, of Caesar's Camp and "that day" in January on Wagon Hill when the Devons saved the situation with a gallant charge; how 'X' won the VC when he should have been court-martialled, and how 'Y' was a tartar for guards and fatigues.

It might all have been yesterday from the way they detailed the idiosyncrasies of sergeants and the peculiarities of quarter blokes.

But it had all happened 48 years ago. The veterans were survivors of the historic siege of Ladysmith, which held out for nearly four months against the Boers in the South African War.

Once A Year

TWO Great Wars have overshadowed their exploit, and they have long since passed out of the public mind into school history books. But once a year, these forgotten old gentlemen dig out their gongs and campaign ribbons and travel to London from Devon and Durham, from Newcastle, Nottingham and Norwich, from Aberdeen and Aberystwith, for their general meeting and dinner to celebrate the relief of that little town of brick and corrugated iron nestling in the steep, rocky hills of Northern Natal, a little town which once loomed large in the headlines of the newspapers and the anxious thoughts of British families.

Each passing year thins out their ranks. There were still a hundred in 1939, but only 78, including four Chelsea Pensioners, answered the muster this time in the Duke of York's Barracks, Chelsea. Their ages? From 80-plus to the "baby" of the party—68-year-old ex-Rifleman Bayley, of the Rifle Brigade, who also saw service in Malta and Crete in the days when, as he told me, the Army was a hard school and there wasn't all this present-day "mollycoddling." He joined up at 17½, and got himself sent overseas by declaring his age as 18 and 10 months.

Though memories remain as green as ever, backs are each year a little more bent, hands are shakier, steps shorter and speech is a little more indistinct.

Reliving The Past

"WE come together to find something of the old comradeship," said 70-year-old Mr E. F. E. Hawshee, who was a bugler in the King's Royal Rifle Corps at Ladysmith, and served 22 years under the colours, and not so long ago in the Home Guard, "even though we sometimes fail to recognise the man who lived in the next tent so many years ago."

It is the one day in the year when they can relive the past, pour out their well-worn stories into sympathetic ears. For one evening, they are back among their 13,000 comrades in the dusty Natal hills with their VC Commander, the late General Sir George White, at whose statue they invariably lay a wreath.

General White, realising that the Boers, excellent horsemen, very mobile and elusive, could make the really decisive stroke of the campaign by invading Cape Colony, instead encouraged them to besiege his force in Ladysmith while British reinforcements and supplies were hurriedly mustered in their rear. Though he was never forgiven by the Government for his action, it tied down 10,000 splendid guerilla fighters, who became undisciplined and demoralised under the monotony of siege warfare and, after repulsing three relieving columns, were finally overwhelmed by the fourth attempt.

But it proved a very close call for the garrison, which also included 2,000 European colonist and 6,000 Kaffirs and Indians, thousands of horses and mules, and the flocks and herds of the colonists. Sickness, want of food and the climate brought them almost to physical exhaustion.

"Hot?" indignantly exclaimed an ex-5th. R. I. Lancer, to whom I had timidly murmured something about the Middle East. "Why, the siege took place during the hottest months of the year, with temperatures running up to 104 degrees in the shade."

"And," asked a former Gordon Highlander, "have you ever been nauseated by uncooked mule—mule that was just on the verge of starvation?"

People died like flies, added a Pensioner. From Enteric fever. From Dysentery. Far more than from Boer bullets. At one time or another at least half the inhabitants had a turn in hospital.

Long Toms

AND what about Long Tom? they asked in chorus. The Long Toms—Creusot six-inch guns and howitzers which went on peppering the garrison day after day. There's even a poem about the most notorious, which runs something like this:

"For he can bend the stiffest back
And mould the strongest will,
He brings us bounding out of bed
When we would fain lie still:
We grumble, but we all obey
Long Tom o' Pepworth's Hill."

But though the folk of Ladysmith got to know every accent of Long Tom, their resolution was unbroken. When Lord Dundonald rode into the town at the head of the relieving Imperial Light Horse and Natal Carabiniers, he found that a mobile coloumn had been set on foot, consisting of all the men who were not too enfeebled, to march out to harass the Boer retreat.

This year, the Defenders of Ladysmith Association welcomed a new President. He is 70-year-old Field Marshal Sir Philip Chetwode, seventh Baronet, with 24 initials after his name, Constable of the Royal Palace and Tower of London. But to those legendary figures, he remains young Captain Chetwode of the 19th. Hussars, who had yet to earn his DSO. The Field Marshal has succeeded Sir Ian Hamilton, who died last year at the age of 94, and who was in command of the famous action on Wagon Hill.

There was also a big disappointment in store for them. They had looked forward to a really grand feast on this reunion. The people of Natal had sent them 20 pounds of ham, 60 tins of fruit and a quantity of tinned vegetables. But secretary J. R. Philpott, late R.N., and now mine host of the 'Jolly Sailor', Buntingford, Herts, had bad news: all the ham and most of the fruit had been rifled en route.

But, even though this is 1948, they had a good spread all the same. It wasn't uncooked horse and army biscuits this time. And, definitely, not pints of water.

NANCY Anything Else, Sir? By Ernie Bushmiller



Rope Co. To Rehabilitate 26 Flats

BIG RESERVE FOR WAR LOSSES

A profit of $1,137,071 over book value made by the sale of factory buildings and land in Kowloon owned by the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., was reported by the Chairman, Mr L. Kadoorie, at the 59th Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Company held in their offices, Chung Tin Building this morning. He added that one million dollars of this had been left on mortgage, in accordance with the terms of sale, at a satisfactory rate of interest.

That it was the intention of the Directors to rehabilitate the 26 totally looted flats of the Company during the current year was also reported.

Before passing the report and accounts, one of the shareholders, Mr A. Hilally, suggested that it was rather drastic to take the war losses from this year's profits, and asked whether it could not be spread over a period. He was assured by the Chairman that, in view of the somewhat problematic chance of getting any money back from war losses, the Directors considered this a wise course to follow.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

The Chairman said: You will see from the Accounts now before you that the result of the year's trading shows a Net Profit of $285,742 and in addition to this there is a profit of $1,137,071 on the sale of your Factory Buildings and Land at Kowloon. These profits when added to the unappropriated surplus of $304,304 brought forward from last account give a balance of $1,728,317 at credit of Profit and Loss Appropriation Account, which your Directors recommend be dealt with as follows:

Transfer to Reserve for War Losses, $994,800; Transfer to General Reserve, $150,000; Transfer to Chinese Staff Superannuation Fund, $9,062; Transfer to Provision for Taxation, $20,000; Pay a Bonus to Staff and Workers, $20,469.92; Pay a Dividend of $1 per share free of tax, $200,000; Pay a Bonus of $1 per share, not liable to tax, $200,000; Carry forward to 1948, 133,975 93.

These recommendations have been incorporated in the accounts and I trust will meet with your approval. I wish to point out that the dividend recommended will be paid out of the taxable profits of the Company and the bonus from profits which are not liable to Corporation Profits Tax.

The proposed bonus to Staff and Workers is on a basis comparable to that of former years and I trust will have your approval as they have given very good service in difficult times.

You will observe in the Profit and Loss Account an ex-gratia payment made to the Staff of $50,675.50, which is in line with what has been paid as Compensation for War Losses by other Companies and which your Directors considered appropriate and fitting. I feel sure you will approve the donation of $5,000 to the War Memorial Fund.

At our last Annual Meeting, Messrs Percy Smith & Co. and Messrs Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. were appointed Auditors at a fee of $1,000 each, but, following representations made by them, your Directors agreed to an increase in their fees to $1,250 each subject to your confirmation which I trust you will not withhold.

MA TAU KOK SALE

During the year under review your Directors received a favourable offer for your property at Ma Tau Kok, Kowloon, which was sold, as I have stated, at a profit of $1,137,971 over book value and, as you will see from the Accounts, one million dollars have been left on mortgage, in accordance with the terms of sale, at a satisfactory rate of interest.

As regards our House Property at Kennedy Town the income derived from rents of occupied flats is giving a fair return on the book value. There are 26 totally looted flats to be reinstated and it is the intention of your Directors to rehabilitate these during the current year.

Turning to the Balance Sheet you will see that our Current Assets exceed Current Liabilities by $592,-800. Stocks and Stores have been valued as usual, at cost or under, and Depreciation on Buildings, Plant, etc. has been calculated on the customary basis.

Your Directors recommend the creation of a General Reserve of $150,000 and you will note that War Losses Account has been provided for by the proposed Reserve of $994,800. You will also see that the Balance Sheet is presented in a more compact form with the previous year's figures shown for comparison.

HEMP MARKET UNCERTAIN

The hemp market remains uncertain and affected by outside influences such as exchange controls and official buying, the incidence and effects of which are difficult to forecast, but I may say that we have on hand a good stock of raw materials.

There has, I regret to say, been no appreciable improvement in certain of our Far Eastern markets wherein we did a good business before the war but we are, however, trying to get into new markets, though it is too early to estimate the possibilities.

While I trust that you will consider the result of the past year's working not unsatisfactory, in view of the many difficulties with which we in common with other industrial concerns have been faced, I feel unable to prophesy as regards the future. Our sales for the first quarter of the current year are satisfactory compared with those for the corresponding period of last year, and I hope that we shall continue to receive a fair share of the business offering.

I do not think that there are any items in the accounts which call for special comment, and I therefore propose that the report and Accounts together with the appropriations therein recommended be adopted and passed, and that the balance of $133,975.93 be carried forward to next account. When this has been seconded I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions which you may wish to ask concerning the Report and Accounts.

This was seconded by Major C. W. L. Way.

SHAREHOLDER'S QUERY

Mr A. Hilally: Do you not think this is rather drastic to take the war losses from this year's profits?

Chairman: Your directors thought it wise to make this reserve.

Mr Hilally: But why wipe it out in one year? Why not spread it over?

Chairman: Your Directors felt that in view of the somewhat problematic chance of getting any money back from the war losses it was a wise course to follow.

Mr Hilally: Thank you.

The motion was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Mr J. Dick, seconded by Mr A. A. Botelho and carried unanimously that Sir Robert Ho Tung and Mr L. Kadoorie be re-elected Directors.

It was proposed by Mr C. W. L. Cole, seconded by Mr A. Hilally and carried, that Messrs Percy Smith & Co., and Messrs Peat, Marwick & Co., be reappointed Auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of $1,250 each per annum.

Present at the meeting were: Messrs. L. Kadoorie (Chairman), A. Raymond, I. W. Shewan, S. T. Williamson, (Directors) F. J. Tavares (Secretary), J. Dick, A. A. Botelho, C. W. L. Cole, H. R. Sequeira, H. Dreyer, A. Hilally, and Major C. W. L. Way (Shareholders).

PAULA By DENNIS WHEATLEY

When the big light crashed on to the studio floor, the star, Rita Vane, fainted



L.B. WOOD MURDER CASE CONTINUES

Cautioned Statement Read To The Court

Hearing of evidence in the Wood Murder case was continued before Mr Blair-Kerr at Kowloon this morning. The defendants, Lau Hoi (alias Lau Yun-hoi, 20), unemployed, Ho Cheuk-kui, 26, unemployed and Li Chung-chun (alias Li Chi-sang, 32), gardener of 377, The Peak, are accused of the murder of Lytton Bevis Wood at Kowloon Pass on February 11. Li is also charged with robbing George Ronald Ross who was out hiking with Wood on that day.

The prosecution is being conducted by Det.-Insp. T. Matches.

Sub-Inspector Matches resumed his stand in the witness box and produced the various articles which had been picked up by the Police from the scene of crime.

The exhibits included three stones, two of which were larger than a fist, stained with blood.

On March 7, continued Sub-Inspector Matches, before the third defendant was formally charged with the crime, he took a cautioned statement from him.

MAN'S STATEMENT

The statement read:—The best thing, as you said there were two Europeans in the case, you can ask them to have me identified. On that day, February 11, I was with my friend the whole day. He can be responsible for me. My elder brother was also with me on that day. So my friend and my brother can be responsible for me. That is all on the second day of the new year (Chinese). I was only walking together with my friend and my elder brother. I was out walking with them until dark on that day before I returned to the Peak. By 5.30 p.m. tram I returned to the Peak.

Li Chung-chun added to his statement:—On that day my elder brother rang me up and asked me to take breakfast with him. I did so and when breakfast was finished, I went for a walk with him and my friend Mo Yung-hing. We took tea at Jordan Road and then we crossed the harbour to Wanchai where we walked about until 5.30 p.m. I then returned to the Peak. I watered the flowers and cooked my meal. I saw my mistress playing ball when I returned. That is all.

ACCUSED QUESTIONED

Detective Kwok Heung-chuen told the Court of the questioning of the first and third accused in connection with the crime.

Kwok said that he was with Detective Sergeant Tam Chung when the first defendant was questioned at 4.30 p.m. on February 23. Tam Chung did the questioning and he noted down the defendant's replies. Later the statement was read over to the first defendant who signed, signifying it as correct.

Kwok continued to say that the third defendant was taken into custody on March 6 and when questioned at 377 the Peak, the third defendant replied that he did not do it but urged the police to make further enquiries.

When the other suspects' names were mentioned, the third defendant said he did not know them. The questioning lasted from 8 p.m. to shortly before midnight, and during this time he made no statement to the police.

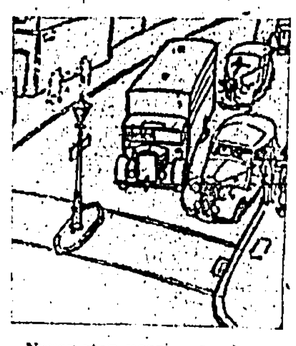
When the detective finished his evidence, and when the defendants were asked by Mr Blair-Kerr whether they wished to cross-examine the witness, the three defendants reiterated their denial of the charge. First and second defendants alleged that they had been beaten by the Police during the course of enquiry.

First defendant alleged that he was assaulted by Det-Sergt. Tam Chung who forced him to make the statement. He was assaulted until he was unconscious.

The second defendant told the Court that he was struck with a truncheon and was forced to admit the charge.

The case is proceeding.

ROAD SENSE... (6)



Never stop near a crossing or refuge. This kind of thing is frequently done in spite of the obvious inconvenience to other traffic.

3 Years For Divan Keeper

Lau Fook, 23, unemployed, was sentenced to a total of three years' hard labour by Mr Latimer at Kowloon this morning, for keeping a heroin divan; possession of 105 heroin pills, possession of a heroin pipe and an opium pipe at the first floor of No. 51 Reclamation Street on March 31.

The premises were raided by Sub-Inspector Baker and five persons were arrested for smoking on the flat. The smokers had been dealt with at the last hearing and defendant was remanded until this morning for sentence.

Another divan keeper Wong Kong was given a total of 27 months' hard labour for possession of 216 heroin pills and eight heroin pipes and three lamps at No. 23 Wusung Street, first floor.

Inspector J. Orem prosecuted.

Wine Theft Did Not Leave Him In Best Of Spirits

Although he had stolen a bottle of Bordeaux wine from Sincere's Company, Yu Chai-man, 36, was not in the best of spirits when he appeared before Mr d'Almada at Central this morning charged with larceny.

"I'm ill and I wanted to get some money for my passage back to Shanghai," said defendant, looking very sorry for himself.

Mr d'Almada: What is the fare to Shanghai?

Defendant: About $40.

Mr d'Almada: Well, that won't pay for it.

Inspector Moran: The wine is valued at $10.

Mr d'Almada: Yes, it will be the bottle and something else.

Defendant: I meant to pawn some of my clothes.

Mr d'Almada: You'll go back to Shanghai all right. Three months and recommended for banishment.

Charged With Illegal Exporting

At the request of Revenue Officer Humphreys, Chan Kit-yee, 28, merchant, was remanded till April 13 by Mr d'Almada at Central this morning on charges of exporting gold and exporting foreign currency.

It was alleged that on Tuesday, at Kai Tak Air Port, defendant tried to export 80 taels of gold valued at $25,000 and 2,000 hundred-piastre notes.

Defendant, who was on bail of $100, will be represented by Mr Hin-shing Lo.

Thieves Take Bricks From Pill Box

The wholesale theft of bricks approximately valued at $1,600 from a pill-box at Tsun Wan district was disclosed before Mr Latimer at Kowloon this morning, when three unemployed Chinese were given prison terms for simple larceny.

Fu Man-wah, 35, alleged to be head of the gang was sentenced to six months' hard labour, while Li Wing, 36 and Bi Bun, 30, were each given three months'.

Insp. Roberts of Tsun Wan Police Station said that defendants were arrested when they started a fight together with some other persons at the site near pill-box No. 417 on the morning of April 6. Police enquiries revealed that the first defendant and his brother, who is not in police custody were head of a gang operating in the wholesale theft of bricks in the district.

Insp. Roberts added that ARP tunnels and pill-boxes in the Tsun Wan district had been looted by hoodlums during the past months and it was very difficult for the culprits to be traced.

Mr Mirons, Inspector of tunnels attached to the Public Works Department said that the bricks had been removed from the foundation of the tunnel and some 10,000 bricks had been removed from this particular pill-box. The roof of the pill-box would have collapsed any moment and it was dangerous for working party to make any repair at this stage. It was said that the cost to seal up the tunnel of the pill-box would roughly be $3,500.

FOUND WITH RAW OPIUM

During routine search by Revenue Officers at the Kowloon Canton Railway Station yesterday, two men were arrested when found in possession of a quantity of raw opium respectively.

Before Mr Latimer at Kowloon this morning, Ng How, 44, farmer, and Koo Kun, 45, unemployed, were each fined $350 or three months' hard labour for possession of 3.5 taels of raw opium each.

The opium was concealed in defendants' shoes and tied around the waist respectively.

Revenue Officer Knox prosecuted.

Italy Expects Colonies Back

Rome, Apr. 7.—Count Carlo Sforza, Italian Foreign Minister, told a meeting of the Italian Cabinet today that Britain, the United States and France seemed agreeable to the return of Tripolitania and Eritrea to Italy, according to the Rome evening newspaper, Italia Socialista.

He added that Cyrenaica would remain under British and American control pending a final decision on its future.

Count Sforza told the Ministers of a plan prepared by Britain and France, with Italian co-operation, for the development of Africa, which would be extended to cover all the western nations.

Count Sforza left this afternoon for Switzerland.—Reuter.

HOW THE UN WAS BORN

London, Apr. 8.—In December, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt and Mr Winston Churchill spent hours discussing a name for the "Grand Alliance" of nations against Germany. The next morning, as he was dressing, the President shouted: "I've got it" and rushed to Churchill's room.

"Where are you, Winston?," he called. "In my bath."

"I've got to speak to you." "All right, open up."

Mr Roosevelt wheeled himself up to the door and swung it open. The Prime Minister's rotund torso rose from a welter of soapsuds.

"Winston," Mr Roosevelt shouted, "How about 'The United Nations'?"

Mr Churchill beamed through a mass of lather. "That ought to be it," he exclaimed.

This story of the birth of 'The United Nations' was told by the American author, Mr Aldes Hatch, in a biography of the late President Roosevelt published here today.—Reuter.

FACES FIVE NEW CHARGES

A charge of impersonating a Revenue Officer at Shaukiwan on April 1 was withdrawn against Yip Hon-jeung, 32, shop foki, by the prosecution and five fresh charges preferred in its place at Central this morning.

The new charges consisted of two counts of impersonating a Revenue Officer, two of demanding money with menaces and one of larceny.

It was alleged that on or about March 17, while on a Mong Kok bound ferry, defendant impersonated a Revenue Officer. On March 20, at Shaukiwan, defendant was alleged to have demanded $40 from Chan Kwong, and also to have stolen $7 from Chan Kwong. On April 1, at the Fu Kwai Lau Teahouse, Shantung Street, defendant allegedly impersonated a Revenue Officer again and demanded $60 from Chan Chiu with menaces.

Defendant was remanded for a week in gaol custody by Mr d'Almada.

GUERILLAS' SUDDEN RAID

Athens, Apr. 7.—United States sources today reported that an estimated 1,200 guerillas attacked a United States aid mission road construction project in the east of Central Greece on Monday and Tuesday, killing five Greek soldiers and two civilians and kidnapping 67 persons, including 17 mission truck drivers.

The attack occurred on Monday night on a section of the Athens-Salonika highway near Pharsala, when a rebel force suddenly swarmed down and burned or dynamited American trucks, road rollers and graders.

Sources said the battle raged throughout the night, with villagers coming to aid project workers.

There was no mention of rebel casualties. Press dispatches said Greek Air Force planes pounded the rebels as they fled southward and one Spitfire was shot down.—United Press.

Stole Saw Blades From Godown

Sentence of four months' hard labour was imposed on Cheung Lee-wah, 20, odd job coolie employed at the Holt's Wharf, by Mr Latimer at Kowloon this morning for larceny of six dozens of hand saw blades from the No. 1 Godown yesterday.

Insp. J. Orem said defendant was arrested in possession of the box of saw blades, which he admitted stealing from among a consignment of cargo unloaded from the ss City of Carlisle.

Defendant had a previous conviction for larceny.

MINISTER FLEES SOVIET ZONE

Berlin, Apr. 7.—Dr Walter Kunze, the Liberal Democratic Minister of Finance for Brandenburg, in the Soviet Zone, was reported to have fled on Sunday and to have sought refuge in the Western Zone, according to today's Tagesspiegel.

The newspaper said Dr Kunze had been the object of several attacks by the Taegliche Rundschau, organ of the Soviet Military Government, lately and that he had been under close observation while in office.—Reuter.

SHOWING TO-DAY **KING'S** At 2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

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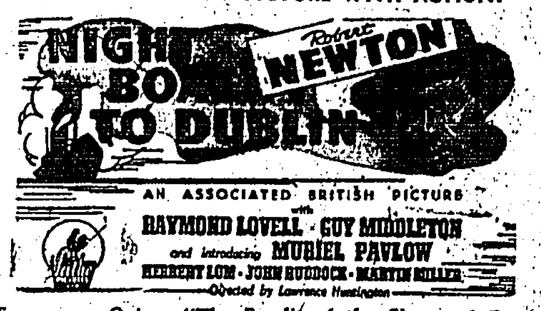
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of the U.S. Submarine 'Copperfin'—flashing the signal that sends the bombers to blast Tokyo!

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Alan LADD Gail RUSSELL in "CALCUTTA"

with William BENDIX • June DUPREZ

TELEGRAPH'S Page Of SPORTS NEWS

OLYMPIC PROSPECTS — By "Recorder"

No Repeat Sweep In Decathlon

AMERICANS FACE CHALLENGE FROM SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

Prospects for the Olympic Decathlon look brighter with every month and it is now more than probable that if Glen Morris's mammoth world record score of 7,900 points at Berlin is not beaten at London it will at least be approached.

Until last year, there had been no better-than-7,000-point decathloners since William Watson, the Michigan negro, won the American National title in 1940. Watson's score, helped on by high points in the 100 metres, high and long jumps, shot put and disc throw, reached 7,523.

In the seven years since no American all-rounder has topped 6,802 points in taking the championship. The Scandinavian countries, always a breeding ground for good decathloners, had also failed consistently in seven years to find a 7,000-point prospect.

That is, they failed consistently until last year when Sweden's Anderson touched 7,042.

The main decathlon challenge at London will come, however, from the most unexpected quarter. Both South America and Australia have excellent prospects of taking Olympic gold in this event.

Australia was unaware of the fact that it had a first-class all-rounder until one, Peter Mullins, on a New Zealand tour recently, entered a decathlon exhibition contest and surprised himself as well as everyone else by topping 7,538 points.

Mullins had never fancied himself before as anything other than a better-than-average high jump and pole vault performer. He is 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 190 lbs.

THE SOUTH AMERICANS

South America has three prospects hovering around the 7,000 mark. They are Argentina's Enrique Kistenmacher, who is top of that total by 11 points, Brazil's Celso Doria and Chile's Mario Recordlon, who are 114 points short of it.

Another prospect is a Russian, Vladimir Volkov, a Red Army lieutenant, who has set a new Soviet high of 7,196 in the event. But then, Russia may not compete.

America's top trio are Al Lawrence, Irving Mondschein and Lloyd Duff. The United States have a glut of other prospects hovering between 6,000 and 7,000 points. Prospective decathlon champs can, of course, discover themselves as suddenly and surprisingly as Mullins did.

Highly regarded to take first place at London is New York's Irv Mondschein. He has high jumped just under 6 feet 6 inches, long jumped just under 24 feet, put the shot just under 48 feet. His best effort was his 6,715 performance in taking last year's American championship.

He can also vault 11 feet 9 inches at his best but his running and hurdling is mediocre even by decathlon standards. Lawrence and Duff, who are essentially sprinter-hurdlers, will have to improve considerably on their weight event performances if they are to make a top-class showing at London.

The United States, which took all three first places at Berlin will be lucky to place all their three entries in the first six at London.

THE BEST IN 1947

Top decathlon scores last year were:

Mullins, Australia	7,538
Volkov, Russia	7,195
Anderson, Sweden	7,042
Kistenmacher, Argentina	7,011
Lawrence, United States	6,973
Doria, Brazil	6,886
Recordion, Chile	6,886
Ericksson, Sweden	6,730
Mondschein, United States	6,715
Duff, United States	6,705



Irv Mondschein, New York University all-rounder, tries to leap 24 feet. He is America's first string in the decathlon and a high-point man in the high jump, pole vault and shot put as well. Other decathlon events are the 100, 400 and 1,500 metres flat races, the high hurdles, disc and javelin throws. To challenge Mullins, the Swedes and South Americans, Mondschein will have to improve a long way on his performances in these latter events.—AP Wirephoto.

BOXING

JULY 26 IS DATE OF BIG FIGHT

50,000 TO SEE LESNEVICH MEET MILLS IN BIGGEST LONDON SHOW

BY GEORGE WHITING

Monday, July 26, has been booked as the date of the most ambitious open-air show in British boxing—with America's Gus Lesnevich defending his world cruiser-weight title against Britain's Freddie Mills at the head of an all-champion programme.

Promoter Jack Solomons, out to capture Olympic Games crowds, is aiming at an all-ticket attendance of 50,000—biggest ever for a fight in this country.

Where? White City is favoured; but I understand inquiries are also being made at the Tottenham Hotspur FC ground, where Solomons first broke into big-time boxing for the Woodcock-London heavy-weight championship fight in 1945.

During the week-end, box-office experts have been sizing up the seating possibilities at White City—where 46,000 saw the Phillips-Doyle, Harvey-McAvoy tournament nine years ago. Crowds broke the barriers and police reinforcements had to be called out on that occasion—but there will be no recurrence of such scenes.

ALL-TICKET PLAN

Wherever he puts on the show, the promoter plans it to be all-ticket, with police barriers and traffic control points some distance from the ground. Street kiosks may be set up to deal with last-minute applications for tickets; none will be on sale at the ground.

Solomons will still not admit officially that he has won his battle with rival promoter Ben Schmidt—now on his way home from New York—for Lesnevich's signature. Nor will he until the Bank of England have granted his application for payment to be made to the American.

How much? Joe Vella, Lesnevich's manager, has said he is not interested in fabulous guarantees. It can be stated quite definitely, however, that Gus will get not less than £15,000. Mills's share, I estimate, will be between £4,000 and £5,000.

BEAT ALL RECORDS

"Lesnevich v. Mills will be a big attraction," Solomons tells me, "but it will not be the only one on the bill. I am planning to have a whole series of British and overseas champions fighting. Given fine weather we should beat all records for an open-air fight in this country. There will be thousands of low-price seats."

Lesnevich, now 33, beat Mills (28) in the 10th round at Harringay in May, 1946—after a fight which the winner has frequently quoted as the hardest of his career. Since then Lesnevich has twice defended his world title successfully against the Philadelphia negro, Billy Fox.

DOLLARS FOR LESNEVICH

London, Apr. 7.—Promoter Jack Solomons announced today that the Bank of England had sanctioned a payoff in dollars, permitting Gus Lesnevich to defend his light-heavyweight title against Freddy Mills on July 26 at London.—United Press.

POINTS DECISION FOR MARINO

Stockton, California, Apr. 8.—Dado Marino, 117 pounds, of Honolulu, leading challenger for the world flyweight boxing title, won a ten rounds points decision over Mike Bernal, 119 pounds, of Oakland, California, here on Tuesday night.

The Hawaiian born Filipino was awarded the decision by two judges. The referee called it a draw. It was a close fight. There were no knockdowns.

At Michigan City, Indiana, the light heavyweight champion, Gus Lesnevich, won a four rounds points victory in an exhibition match with Lee Camplone of Chicago.

At New York City, Ed Dumbel, 122 pounds, of Wales, lost on points to D. Martin, 129 pounds, of Detroit.

At Hartford, Connecticut, Tony Janiro, high ranking welterweight easily outpointed Johnny Dudley.

Janiro comes from Youngstown, Ohio and Dudley from New York City. Their fight was over ten rounds.—Associated Press.

NATIONAL AAU TOURNEY

Boston, Apr. 7.—New York led in the battle for the team prize and only two defending champions remained in the running as the 60th annual national AAU boxing championships reached the semi-final stage.

The Amateur Bronx Bombers, with six boxers ready for the final day of the competition, set the pace for teams still qualified after two gruelling days of trials and quarter-finals.

Today 32 boxers from throughout the United States and Hawaii will slug through 24 bouts to determine the champions who automatically qualify for the Olympic team competition next June.

Johnny Gonzalves, of Oakland, California, defending the 135-pound crown, and Grant Butcher, of San Francisco, defending the 175-pound title, led the parade of fighters remaining in the tournament.

Gonzalves was forced to the limit to defeat Johnny Saxton, of New York, in the quarter-final. Butcher knocked out Joe Mahoney, of Greenville, South Carolina, in the second round.—United Press.

AGE LIMIT SET

Boston, Massachusetts, Apr. 7.—The House passed a bill establishing the maximum age limit of 35 for professional boxers in the state.

The measure next goes to the Senate for action.—United Press.

HOME FOOTBALL

British Army Takes Cup

London, Apr. 7.—Defeating the French Army by one goal to nil at the Tottenham Hotspurs' ground, London, today, the British Army won the Kentish Cup Triangular Military Soccer Tournament, in which the Belgian Army also took part, for the first time since 1935.

The British Army's goal was scored in the first half.—Reuter.

BUTLER TO COACH DANISH TEAM

London, Apr. 7.—Jack Butler, manager of the Crystal Palace Football team, has been offered a contract to coach the Danish national team for the Olympic games tournament. The offer was from the Danish Football Association.

Butler coached the Danish National team in the 1936 Olympics.—Associated Press.

LEAGUE RESULTS

London, Apr. 7.—The following were the results of football matches played today:

First Division: Aston Villa 2, Derby County 2, Blackpool 0, Burnley 1; Manchester United 1, Manchester City 1; Preston North End 3, Sheffield United 3.

Second Division: Chesterfield 6, West Ham United 0.

Third Division (Southern): Aldershot 2, Norwich City 2; Brighton and Hove 1, Southend United 0; Exeter City 0, Port Vale 0; Watford 1, Notts County 3.

Third Division (Northern): Crewe Alexandra 0, Accrington Stanley 0.

Scottish "B" Division: East Fife 4, Stenhousemuir 0.—Reuter.

RUGGER

London, Apr. 7.—The following were the results of rugger matches played today:

Rugby Union: County Match: Hampshire 3, Dorset and Wiltshire 5.

Other Match: Abertillery 12 Crumlin 3.

Rugby League: Barrow 14, Hull 2; Huddersfield 18, Wakefield Trinity 5; Leigh 10, Oldham 5; Leeds 12, Hunslet 0.—Reuter.

SPAIN PREFERRED

Paris, Apr. 7.—It is unofficially reported here that France will play Spain in a soccer international in Paris on June 13 in place of their fixture with Czechoslovakia.—Reuter.

SWISS TOUR FOR BIRMINGHAM

Birmingham, Apr. 7.—The Birmingham Football Club, leaders of the Second Division of the Football League, announced today that they will play five matches in Switzerland during a tour which will last 17 days.

They will leave England on May 2. All members of the Club's first team, except the lefthalf, Mitchell, who is a Warwickshire County cricketer, are expected to make the trip.—Reuter.

TODAY'S FOOTBALL

Today's local Football League matches are:

First Division:

K.M. Bus v. RAF—Boundary Street, 5 p.m.

Sing Tao v. Police—Happy Valley, 5 p.m.

Second Division "B":

RAMC v. Electric—Happy Valley, 5 p.m.



GOLF

For Men Only, Amazon Told

New York, Apr. 7.—The British Women's amateur golf champion, Mrs Babe Didriksen Zacharias found an official "for men only" sign barred her from the national open golf championships today.

The "Babe" indicated she would like to play in the 1948 tournament at Los Angeles on June 10 through June 12.

The United States Golf Association informed her she was not welcome and the tournament was always intended for men only.

No woman had ever before sought to enter the tournament.—Associated Press.

"SMART MONEY"

Augusta, Georgia, Apr. 7.—A steady downpour of rain turned the Augusta national golf course into a near-quagmire but "smart money" was still on either Lloyd Mangrum, Ben Hogan or Jimmy Demaret to win the Masters' Tournament starting Tuesday.

Rated close behind the top three were Byron Nelson, emerging from retirement to participate, South African Bobby Locke and veteran tournament ace Sammy Snead.—United Press.

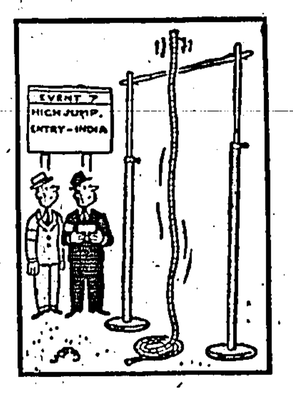
MORE QUALIFYING DISTRICTS NAMED

New York, Apr. 7.—The United States Golf Association announced today that 20 qualifying districts—three more than last year—have been set up in advance of the 48th National Open at Los Angeles on June 10 to 12. It will be the first time that the Open has ever been held on the Pacific Coast.

The four new qualifying sections, to accommodate the increased number of Western golfers, were added in the Pacific Northwest, Texas, Utah and Hawaii. The Middle Atlantic section has been eliminated.

The 20 lowest scorers, plus those tying for 20th place in the 1947 championship, are exempt from qualifying.

The sectional qualifying tests are scheduled for June 1 except in Honolulu where the players qualify on May 25 and in Los Angeles where the times are set for May 27 and 28.—United Press.



CHESS TOURNEY

Draw For Championship

The tournament for the Colony Open Chess Championship will commence on Thursday, April 22, one round being played weekly. Two finalists are still to be decided from play-offs, which will be of three games.

The first play-off game will have to be commenced by Tuesday, April 13, the second by Thursday, April 15, and the final one by Tuesday, April 20.

For the final, the players have been drawn in the following order: 1. Eugene Tausz or R. C. Danenberg, 2. J. P. de Carvalho, 3. F. X. Sequeira, 4. L. Schure, 5. P. K. Prokopov, and 6. Arthur Gomes or K. M. A. Barnett.

The finalists will play each other twice.

RESERVE TOURNEY

The meeting yesterday evening of the Colony Open Chess Championship Committee decided also to stage a Reserve Tournament open to all Colony players, barring the finalists in the Colony Open.

Entries for this tournament close at noon on Saturday, April 24, and should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer of the Committee, Mr R. C. Gardner, 306, Prince's Building.

INDOOR TENNIS

New York, Apr. 8.—Billy Talbert, the newly crowned United States indoor tennis champion and veteran Frank Shields were named on Wednesday to play Marcel Bernard and Jean Borotra of France in an international indoor tennis exhibition in New York on Friday night.—Associated Press.

COLONY TENNIS

Doubles Surprise

Kenneth and Thomas Lo packed the gallery at the Chater Road courts yesterday when they surprised considerably by beating in straight sets the more mature Chinese Recreation Club pair of Szeto Bick and Marsland Ma in the third round of the Colony Open Doubles Championship.

On paper, the young Lo brothers were conceded an even chance to win, particularly if tactics revolved around a close net game. The CRC players were better on defence, slow on the kill.

The surprise of the evening was the 6-3, 6-3 result in favour of the younger pair. Playing an aggressive smashing game at the net interspersed with high lobs and well-placed drives, the Lo brothers served notice that they would be leading contenders for the Colony Open Doubles title in two or three years.

Yesterday's match saw Kenneth Lo in top form and Szeto very much off his best. The Lo brothers surprised by leading 4-2 in the first set, conceding one game and taking the next two for set.

A FINE DISPLAY

Szeto had not yet settled down and had very little chance in a game in which smashes at the net were the order of the day. Both the Lo brothers timed their kills accurately and infused variety into their point-winning by well-placed top-hand spins and drives that added up to a fine display of courtcraft.

The complete collapse of Szeto and Ma in the second set was the real surprise of the evening. They looked set to settle down when the Lo brothers took the first game on Szeto's service, conceding one point and the second on Kenneth Lo's service, this going to one deuce.

Ma won the game on his service and it appeared here that the expected rally would at last materialise when Thomas Lo took the fourth game on his service and Szeto lost his, both without a deuce being called.

Kenneth Lo lost the sixth game on his service. Again a rally was looked forward to but a collapse came instead. The Lo brothers took the last three games to 30, 30 and love for set and match.

In the only other match played yesterday, Lee Chun-kit and Y. Y. Lam beat C. K. L. Wu and C. Lau 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 in a long drawn-out encounter.

TODAY'S TENNIS

The gallery today will have a hard time deciding which match it is that is worth watching.

Main attraction will be Tsui Yun-pui and Tsui Wai-pui against J. D. Mackie and S. Saul on Court 3. Also in action will be the Rumjahn cousins (S. A. and H. D.) against T. E. and R. O. Baker on Court 4.

Yet another strong pair will be in action on Court 2 where K. H. Ip and Paul Kong play T. J. Gould and J. K. Wilson. Also on today's programme are Lee Wai-tong and P. T. Hsu v. S. K. H. Wong and Lam Kwan on Court 1; J. B. Gonsalves and W. A. Reed v. Wong Shui-wing and Luk Ding-cheung on Court 5. The last should be the closest match.

Empire boxers are named for Olympics

By GEORGE WHITING

Four Australians, a New Zealander and a Cingalese are first to be named as Olympic Games boxers from the Empire. Canada and South Africa, each expected to send a complete team of eight, are postponing their selections until after their national championships in May.

Star of the Australian team is reputed to be R. Gower, a fly-weight from Tasmania. He will be accompanied by George Higham, Queensland middle-weight, J. Carruthers, "southpaw" bantam-weight from New South Wales, and feather-weight Laurie Birks, a 19-year-old Queensland meat worker. A fifth Australian, W. Barber, may make the trip if funds can be raised.

New Zealand, who want to send their crack amateur bantam-weight, R. Gosling, to the Games, have been informed that the entry cannot be accepted until they affiliate with the Association Internationale de Boxe Amateur. It will cost them £10.

Albert Perera, Cingalese bantam-weight, who is to box in the ABA championships at Wembley on May 5 as preparation for his Olympic attempt, arrives in this country from Colombo next week.

MATCHLESS BEAUTY and PERFORMANCE

CADILLAC 60 Special. The new version of the famed Cadillac "60-Special" is the smartest and finest in this distinguished car's sensational history. Designed to combine all Cadillac's traditional luxury and performance — with the most advanced of ultra-smart styling — the "Sixty Special" brings its owner a type of motor car which is available nowhere else in the world.

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Every year, many thousands of people successfully avoid colds with the help of Serocalcin. Its use, both in the prevention and treatment of the common cold, has given consistently satisfactory results. Serocalcin is not infallible, but its record is such that it merits a trial by everyone subject to colds.

PREVENTION OF COLDS

Two Serocalcin tablets are taken daily for 30 days. In many cases this gives 3 to 4 months immunity from colds.

TREATMENT OF AN EXISTING COLD

Three tablets are taken three times daily. Commenced in the early stages of a cold this often clears up the attack in 3 to 4 days. Serocalcin is suitable for adults and children.

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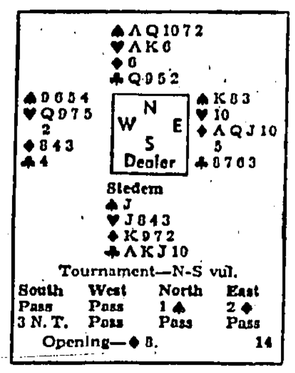


"Since you had that fight with your girl, you've been eating twice as many sodas! What's the matter—lovesick?"

• McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Cinches a Finesse By Eliminating It

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY



Tournament—N-S vul.

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♦
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening—♦8. 14

IT is my prediction that Joseph Stedem of Chicago will become one of the most popular men associated with organised bridge. Joe, who is president of the Chicago Contract Bridge Association, loves the game and attended his first national tournament in Atlantic City, N. J.

Like many Chicago players Stedem has his own ideas on what to do with a hand. He never wants to get in a rut—and that is the only justification I can give you for his bidding on this hand. I do not know why he refused to open the bidding with the South cards, but in all likelihood, the next time he has a similar holding he will bid something on it. So we will pass over the bidding and get on with his line of play.

East played the ten-spot on the opening diamond lead and Stedem let it hold the trick. Then East cashed the ace of diamonds, on which West played the four-spot.

Now came the queen of diamonds, and when Stedem won this trick with the king he noted that West played the three, indicating East had held five diamonds.

Stedem cashed the ace and king of clubs. West showing out on the second club. This meant East had held four clubs.

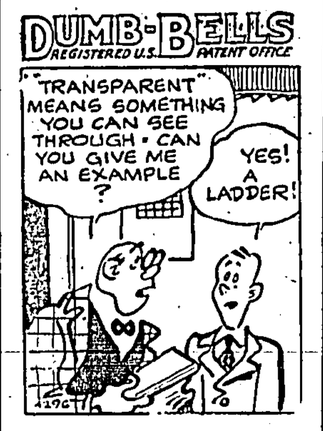
When Stedem cashed the ace and king of hearts, East showed out on the second heart. Stedem cashed his two good club tricks, and then his only worry was the spade finesse. However he was not going to take any chances. He knew at this point that East held only two diamonds and two spades, so he led his nine of diamonds, allowing East to cash the two good diamonds.

But then East was forced to lead a spade into dummy's ace-queen. Thus the finesse was eliminated.

Check Your Knowledge

1. What jewel is next to the diamond in hardness?
2. Why is port wine so called?
3. When were tanks first used in warfare?
4. What city do all Mohammedans face when they pray?
5. Where are the greatest of all glaciers?
6. "Harvest Moon" refers to what period?

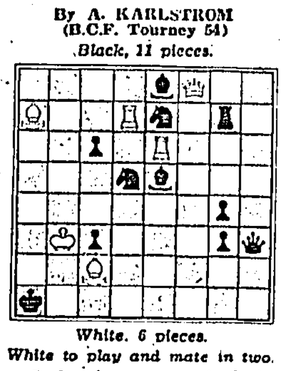
(Answers on Column 4)



CHESS PROBLEM

By A. KARLSTROM
(B.C.F. Tourney 54)

Black, 11 pieces.



White, 6 pieces.

White to play and mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. K—Kt8. 1 . . . R—Kt2, B2: 2, Q—QR1 (ch); 1 . . . P—Q4; 2. Q—Kt3 (ch); 1 . . . R—R4: 2. R—R4; 1 . . . R—R1: 2. Q—B5 (ch).

EXCLUSIVE 'TELE GRAPH' FEATURE

YOUR BIRTHDAY By STELLA

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

BORN today, you have a high degree of efficiency and self-confidence. You have tremendous enthusiasms and enter upon a new project at high speed, expecting everyone else to do likewise. You have little use for those whose mental processes and reactions are more slowly paced than your own. You enjoy travelling at high speed and thrive on the feeling of competition that it gives.

Your intuitions are keen and you must learn to follow them implicity. Since they usually guide you correctly, you get the reputation of being very wise, and as time goes on, you will also begin to think that your decisions are made on experience rather than on a "hunch." Don't try to fool yourself. This gift has been given you. Use it and don't deny its existence, even to yourself.

You must be warned against becoming something of an intellectual snob. This is unworthy of you and you must learn to get along with all kinds of people if you are to reach popular success. You can do it, easily, if only you will try. You are generally liked by all those with whom you come in contact, but often you put up such a front that acquaintances are held at arms' length until you decide to invite them into the inner circle of friendship. You know, almost instantly, whom you like or dislike; but you will pause a while before making any public commitment—and for this, you are sometimes considered a snob.

When it comes to romance, you are ardent and inclined to be jealous. The object of your affection will get full and loyal devotion, but you want reciprocation in kind. Don't permit yourself to become too possessive in your attitude and you will find more contentment.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—A fairly good day for normal activities but avoid undue excitement or over-enthusiasm. Be conservative.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—If you are smart you can smooth out any minor misunderstanding and gain a complete success over an adversary.

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—Farmers are favoured. Professional chemists and construction workers may also find increased activity.

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—A good day for romance. A new employment opportunity may appear, so be prepared to consider it wisely.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Push new understandings. If opening a shop, this would be a fine time to do it. Aspects for it are favourable.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22)—Yesterday's ideas may reach their fulfilment today. Be prepared to act on important matters profitably.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Continue yesterday's activities. If a project will profit by publicity, then see that you secure it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Don't fall victim of some scheme. Your own plans probably are much better than those of others just now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 32-Dec. 22)—A good all-round day for your activities. Romance is in the air, so keep an eye open in that direction.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—New ideas for business expansion are in the air. Investigate projects and, if good, be confident of success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Don't let others misrepresent a deal. Investigate thoroughly before committing yourself. If good, act swiftly.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Be prepared for the unexpected and you won't be surprised! A new opportunity for advancement may open up very suddenly.

AROUND THE WORLD

Egypt Lures Travellers

By TEMPLE MANNING

THE lure of Egypt is eternal and travel agents say that it ranks more than ever as a travel objective with who have the leisure and money to travel far afield. This is why travel to the land by the Nile has been stepped up by plane.

There is always something new to see for those interested in ancient Egypt, apart, of course, from the cosmopolitan atmosphere and gaiety of Cairo and the charm of the surrounding desert.

Bedouin Workers

For instance, in 1942 some Bedouin workers on King Farouk's estate, just north of Cairo, brought him some curious knives and vases found while digging. These discoveries have now resulted in the partial excavation of one of the greatest cemeteries in the world, the gigantic ancient burial ground of Heliopolis. Exquisite objects made of ivory, back brushes, walking sticks, vases, carvings in hard stone, examples of early building masonry have already been found, and further and more wonderful discoveries are anticipated.

A miracle has been wrought in the restoration of the Rest-Temple of the King Sesostris at Karnak, which today stands in the same immaculate beauty as when it left the hands of its builders almost four thousand years ago. Built in 1950 B. C. "for all eternity," as its inscription reads, of the purest white limestone, as a memorial to the god Amun, and as a rest house during the jubilee of the king, it stood until 1400 B. C. At that time all the buildings in the area were destroyed while another king did some building of his own. The blocks were used in other building or scattered and buried for 3,300 years.

Work on the restoration of the temple was begun in 1914 and now the task has been successfully completed. The carving is amazing, as is the huge slab of pink granite in the centre of the 17½ feet high temple, which is an open room of 10 pillars covered with the carvings.

Other work, carried out at Tanis, has resulted in a find of toilet articles and silver and gold vases that date back to 1,000 B.C. Also placed in the museum at Cairo is the silver coffin of King Sheshok, called Shisnak in the bible, who married King Solomon's daughter. Then there is furniture that belonged to Queen Hetepheres, mother of King Cheops, which means that the furniture was made around 2,500 years before Christ.



A typical ancient curio to be seen at the Cairo Museum, Egypt.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE
Answers

1. The sapphire. 2. It derives its name from the city of Oporto where it originated. 3. In 1916 by the British. 4. Mecca, birthplace of Mohammed. 5. In Greenland and Antarctica. 6. On or about September 22, in the northern areas, when the sun sets directly west and the full moon rises directly east almost at the same time.

ZBW RADIO

H.K.T.

6.55, Programme Summary; 6, Children's Story: "Peter Duck" by Arthur Ransome Episode 10: "Blind Man's Buff" Read by Captain Flint; 6.30, La Demi-Heure Francaise (Studio); 7, World and Home News (London Relay); 7.15, "TMA" with Tommy Handley (B.B.C.-T.S.); 7.45, "Thursday Serenade" ½ an hour of continuous music played on the Hammond Organ by Donald Frazer by Courtesy of Moutrie & Co.; 8.15; Songs of the West Country, B.B.C. Chorus with Frederick Harvey (Baritone) (B.B.C.-T.S.); 8.30, Piano Recital by Caroline Braga (Studio); 8.50, Orchestral Interlude; 9, World and Home News (London Relay); 9.15, Weather Report; 9.16, Book Reviews by Reinaldo Obiitas (Studio); 9.30 London Playhouse: "Take My Life" with Hugh Williams, Greta Gynt, Phillipa Shelley, Henry Edwards and Francis Sullivan as the Prosecuting Counsel; 10, Radio News Reel; (London Relay); 10.15, Squire Celeste Octet; 10.40, Dance to Chappie d'Amato and his Orchestra (B.B.C.T.S.); 11, Close Down.



POCKET CARTOON
By OSBERT LANCASTER



"He says which would we rather have—the Old Vic Company in 'Romeo and Juliet', or Sir Malcolm Sargent and the London Philharmonic?"

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

"THE whale is a sausage in its natural state." This is a dangerously wild exaggeration on the part of a high official, and may encourage young adventurers to take ship to distant waters hoping to harpoon-a-sausage-or-two-in-the Mozambique channel, home of the hump-backed whale, which old sailors ride like a camel. The hump does not go into sausages, but is extracted and used to make linings for boilers or shutters for lanterns. The fins used to be made into fans for Burmese ladies, a practice which ceased with the introduction of railways and the consequent development of travel.

• • •

The clupandonic acid in sperm oil is used for dressing jute, for lubricating screw-cutting wheels, and for gumming fibres. A kind of tallow called nibin is obtained by boiling the blubber in copper pans, steam-heated. A hydraulic press is then used to drain off the chalce, a vitaminous oil rich in gobulol.

I can't follow this

A TOURIST at Saint Jean-de-Luz once watched the Basque sardine-fleet coming in. He had heard that the Basques were great whale-hunters (they were among the earliest to go to the Newfoundland fisheries), and he went up to a sturdy sailor on the quay, pointed to his boat, and said, "Any good whales this trip?" "Only a baby one," said the Basque, handing him a sardine. The tourist took the little fish back to England with him, and today it can be seen in the Leeds Natural History Museum, to which he presented it. The glass case in which it reposes is labelled: "The Smallest Whale In The World. Gift of Mr Ernest Toothcroft." In 1923, Professor Cadgeaway contributed a paper to the Journal of Piscatorial Research, in which he advanced one hundred and eight proofs that the fish was not a whale but a sardine.

Fireman's trousers in pudding

"ALL animals," says my paper, "respond to kindness."

A surly old beast is the rhino,
Too ugly, too clumsy, too fat,
But I'm sure he will smile if we give him
A little round wickerwork hat.

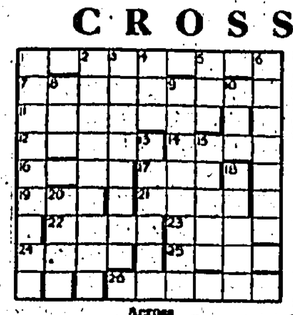
If you have any little round wickerwork hats which have grown too shabby or too small for you, send them to the rhinoceroses at the Zoo.

Old songs re-sung

Hen relays egg

("Radio Chatter.")

CROSSWORD



Across

1. It makes a rare catch. (9)
7. Otherwise a real tent. (9)
11. I seem to be sandwiched between two containers. (7)
12. A Spy. (5)
14. Row. (4)
16. Briefly belonging to Leonard. (4)
17. Ring this round for invading. (3)
19. Do you pay at the door for this fish? (6)
21. Part probably played by 1 Across. (4)
22. Somebody has upset the tram. (4)
23. An outstanding feature. (4)
24. The right time to do this is when one is hungry. (4)
25. A broken star. (4)
26. Just listen for a change. (6)

Down

1. A procession. (9)
2. An accompanist. (9)
3. Recover? (5)
4. Always seen in the march past. (5)
5. Colour. (3)
6. Sounds as though you have got to iron again to get this. (7)
8. Part of a flag day. (5)
9. A tin loan for the country? (5)
10. Wed. (3)
13. A plaid pattern. (5)
15. Drone. (5)
18. Recline. (5)
20. There's an honour to it. (4)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle.—Across: 1. Come back; 7. Over; 9. Irate; 10. Marina; 12. Dale; 14. Placated; 15. Lea; 18. Ida; 19. Rye; 20. Term; 22. Yield; 24. Lure; 26. Karl; 27. Meal; 28. Dorsey. Down: 1. Cobweb; 2. Oval; 3. Brie; 4. Bin; 5. Cadet; 6. Scimitar; 8. Erase; 10. Mantle; 11. Tudor; 13. Dread; 17. Evil; 18. Led; 21. Auto; 23. Pro; 25. Nae.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

MORE BUSINESS ON STOCK EXCHANGE

An improved volume of business was recorded during this morning's session of the Hongkong Stock Exchange, but the market generally remained quiet with no unusual changes. Total sales amounted to $583,000.

Noon closing prices and this morning's transactions are listed below:

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank	2030		
East Asia	135		
INSURANCES			
Canton	410	100 @	400
Union	795	5 @	795
HK Fire	320	100 @	300
DOCKS, ETC.			
HK & K Wharf (O) ..	170	400 @	172½
HK & K Wharf (N) fully paid		100 @	160½
part paid		650 @	105
Docks	31¾ 32¾	200 @	31¾
		140 @	31½
Provident	22¾ 23½	100 @	23
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	18 18¾		
HK Land	83	90 @	83½
		583 @	83
Humphreys ...	25	1050 @	24
S'hai Land ...	8½		
UTILITIES			
Tramway	22¾ 23		
Star Ferry	133		
Electric	50 50½	700 @	51
		400 @	50½
		250 @	50¼
Ch. Light (O)	24.15 24½	2720 @	24.15
		1100 @	24¾
Ch. Light (N)	10 10¾		
Telephone (O)	46½	550 @	45
Telephone (N)	46		
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	43½		
Hope	21	500 @	20.90
STORES			
Dairy Farm ...	50	200 @	54½
Watson	49½ 52	500 @	50¼
Lane Crawford	57		
COTTONS			
Ewo	17½	1300 @	18½
		4937 @	18

Market Reacts To Budget

London, Apr. 7.—The London Stock Exchange failed in its efforts successfully to anticipate probable reaction to Sir Stafford Cripps's budget upon investment values.

It was generally accepted that gentlemen no longer prefer bonds, but must at all costs find attractive issues which will rise in price and furnish tax-free profits.

Thus the first reaction was a highly scattering demand for Industrials with rises of sixpence or thereabouts, while gilt-edgeds were the scene of the greatest confusion with losses ranging from 1/16th to 3/8ths, interspersed with sharp recoveries.

Other sections were inactive.—United Press.

HEAVY LOSS OF STEEL

New York, Apr. 7.—The magazine Iron Age said today that nearly 600,000 tons of steel were lost during the soft coal miners strike and even if the strike ends at once the loss may reach 2,000,000 tons before normal operations can resume.

The magazine pointed out that a loss of 600,000 tons would cover about one-third of steel requirements under the European recovery programme.

The magazine placed the ingot rate this week at 80 percent of capacity and said "If the mine shutdown continues into the next week" the rate could fall as low as 70 percent of capacity.—United Press.

China Produce And Bristles

CLOSING PRICES

New York, Apr. 7.

Aniseed Oil, per lb. F.O.B. New York	0.80/90
Cassia Oil, per lb. F.O.B. New York	2.40/3.00
Tung Oil, in tank cars, per lb. F.O.B. New York	—
Sandalwood, in drums, depending on sellers quantity & quality	13.75 nominal
Agar Agar, per lb. F.O.B. New York	3.70/4.00
Beryllium (10 to 12 percent) per ton	16.00/18.00
Molybdenum (90 percent) per lb.	0.45

CHINA BRISTLES

Bristles, F.O.B. New York, per lb. as follows:—

Hankow, Regular Assortments	2.30
Shanghai, " "	2.30
Chungking, " "	2.25
Tientsin, 26's shorts	5.50/5.60
Tientsin 26's regular	7.30

—United Press.

Exchange Rates

In the unofficial local exchange market this morning, business was done at the following rates:—

Chinese dollars	69,200
Sterling notes	13.05
U.S. dollars	5.745
Gold bars	339.00
Piastres	11.70
Siam ticals	26.00
NEI guilders	38.50

Japanese Rayon Yarn Report

New York, Apr. 7.—It was learned today through trade circles that a large quantity of Japanese rayon yarn is being offered at US$1.12 per pound for 150 Denier and US$1.19 for 120 Denier.

Importers offering the yarn reported they have approximately one million pounds of 120 and 150 Denier and Viscose Rayon for immediate delivery from Japan.

It was reported that top quality Italian yarn is imported from Italy through Switzerland to be sold at US$1.48 per pound, duty paid.—United Press.

Crude Rubber Stocks Up

New York, Apr. 7.—The N. Y. Commodity Exchange today reported that stocks of crude rubber increased sharply during February as production ran ahead of consumption.

Natural rubber imports from the Far East into the United States dropped to 54,200 tons in February from 80,564 long tons in January. This was the lowest figure since November but still well above the 30,318 tons imported in February 1947.

Combined natural crude and synthetic rubber consumption during February fell to 86,085 long tons which was the lowest level since July 1947.—United Press.

Less Textiles Activity

New York, Apr. 7.—Activity today slackened considerably in Worth Street as buyers shied away from the sharply higher prices quoted on print-cloths by leading producers.

Mill offerings on the 80-square fourth-quarter delivery were boosted to 26-1/2 cents a yard or 1-1/2 cents above the level prevailing late last week.

Converters were reported to have increased their price resistance in the garment trade and retail field.

Feeling developed that estimates on probable government buying for military use had been exaggerated and barring anything short of actual warfare the present production schedules could take care of all requirements.

Other observers believed that should the unexpectedly heavy military demands dislocate production schedules shortages would not be as drastic as during war emergency because Japanese importations could be used to relieve any supply stringency.—United Press.

SMALL DEMAND FOR COPRA

New York, Apr. 7.—The copra and coconut oil markets ruled quiet today, but the undertone was stronger in line with the higher Philippine market.

Domestic crushers paid US$305 for small quantities C.I.F., Pacific Coast, April/May delivery, or US$10—above previous transactions.

Cable advices reported a tight supply situation in the Philippines reflecting a combination of the recent typhoon damage, plus effects of the recent army buying and demand for European interests.

Coconut oil producers held April/May shipment at 24 cents a pound in tank cars, Pacific Coast.—United Press.

The Last War's Biggest Raids

London, Apr. 7.—Geoffrey De Freitas, Britain's Under Secretary for Air, gave the House of Commons the official one night bomb tonnage record for World War II in Europe on Wednesday.

By the Royal Air Force 5,500 tons on Duisberg, killing 2,400 people.

By the Luftwaffe 1,200 tons on Britain—main target London—killing 1,300.—Associated Press.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcel posts close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. If mail close before 10 a.m., registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. the previous day.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8
Closing Times By Air

Japan (Ordinary letters and cards only) 3.30 p.m.
Bangkok, Singapore, Batavia, Colombo, Sydney and Auckland, 3.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tsingtao, Peiping and Hoihow, 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Macassar, Sourabaya and Batavia (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.
Macao, Tsinshan and Shekki (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Parcels and 2nd class mail) (Sea) 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9
Closing Times By Air

Canton, (Kowloon CPO) 7.30 a.m., 10 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 3 p.m.; (GPO) 7 a.m., 9.30 a.m., Noon, 2.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Swatow and Amoy, 9 a.m. (reg); 9.30 a.m. (ord).
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tsingtao, Peiping, Chungking, Foochow, Tainan and Swatow, 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Macao, Tsinshan and Shekki (Sea) 9 a.m.
Swatow (Sea) Noon.
Straits, Egypt and Europe via Liverpool (Sea) 10 a.m. (par); 11.30 a.m. (reg); Noon (ord).
Shanghai (Sea) 2 p.m.
Macao, Tsinshan and Shekki (Sea) 2 p.m.
Canton (2nd class mail only) (Train) 2 p.m.
Hoihow (Sea) 3 p.m.
Macao, Tsinshan and Shekki (Sea) 4 p.m.
Tsamkong (Sea) 5 p.m.
Kongmoon (Sea) 5 p.m.
Canton (Parcels and 2nd class mail) (Sea) 5 p.m.

Chiang To Be Drafted President

"No Other Person Big Enough"

Nanking, Apr. 8.—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek will be drafted this afternoon as the new President of the Chinese Republic, according to high Kuomintang Officials in an interview late last night.

High officials of the Party stated that "there is no other person in the country big enough for the important post."

This afternoon the National Assembly is expected to consider the nomination for the Presidency. Thus far, only Dr Chu Cheng, President of the Judicial Yuan, has accepted nomination and, though he, too, is a Kuomintang member, his candidature is not considered serious in Nanking.

One key official told Reuter-AAP that the Generalissimo is the only person equipped to lead the country. Other officials say that President Chiang does not wish to withdraw from the Government at the present difficult juncture, but he feels that the Presidential office may restrict his activities.

Some quarters say that the Generalissimo would like to become Prime Minister in order to have more control over the affairs of State, while still others feel that he will be able to exert his influence just as much in the Presidential role.

CONFIDENT OF SUPPORT

These high officials are unanimous that President Chiang will receive overwhelming support from the Kuomintang, minor parties and independents. "Indeed, from the whole of the country, including Nationalists and Communists."

The National Assembly will today vote on the recommendations of the delegates over Article 27 of the Constitution, which limits Assembly discussions to certain issues, whereas the majority of delegates wish to discuss National questions, including military and economic.

The Assembly yesterday adopted with little dissension a recommendation from the Presidium for the formation of a committee to examine the qualifications of delegates and another to mete out disciplinary action against delegates violating the rules of the conference.

The Assembly's sessions yesterday were marked by comparatively quiet atmosphere under the chairmanship of Mr Ku Cheng-kang, Minister of Social Affairs, and Mr Chang Fang, a delegate from Honan, although once again many delegates spoke against the provisions of Article 27, limiting delegates' proposals.—Reuter.-AAP.



CHIANG KAI-SHEK

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Far East Democratic Supporters In U.S.

Sir,—May I, through the medium of your valuable paper, publish the following letter for public interest which I received yesterday from Mr Maud Russell, Executive Director of the Democratic Far Eastern Policy Committee, in reply to the message of greetings sent by the Chairman of the Chi Kung Tang of China, Mr Chan Ki-yau, during the opening of the National Conference of the American Policy in China and the Far East held in New York on January 23, 1948.

"Dear Mr Chan, The National Conference on American Policy in China and the Far East thanks you for your greetings which were read by the Secretary, Mr Hugh DeLacy, former U.S. Congressman, to the delegates. You may be sure that the Americans were strengthened in the task of planning to fight for a democratic policy toward Far Eastern countries by this evidence of your awareness of your work.

The Conference brought together over 500 citizens representing 138 organisations and many individual persons. These came from 10 states, and 37 towns and cities.

We trust that the fact that American citizens, representing labour, youth, church and civic action groups, met in such a conference and for such a purpose will add hope, stimulus and strength to all people working for a truly democratic society.

We welcome from you who sent greetings from the Far East any information that can help keep American citizens informed about the situation in your country as it relates to American Far Eastern Policy issues."

Y. S. CHEN,
The Secretariat, Chi Kung Tang Party, China.

OPIUM HAUL ON VAN HEUTZ

Singapore, Apr. 8. — Customs officers seized more than £12,500 worth of opium on Wednesday from the luggage of Chinese deck passengers disembarking from the Dutch liner, Van Heutz.

Late Wednesday night, large additional amounts were still being discovered concealed in rice cakes, dried fish and false bottomed buckets.

The Van Heutz arrived from Amoy. It is the largest haul of opium ever made locally from passengers' luggage.—Associated Press.

BERLIN AIR CRASH INVESTIGATION

Soviet Note Received But Not Disclosed

Berlin, Apr. 7—A Soviet note replying to the British request outlining certain requirements for the investigation of Monday's air crash when a Soviet fighter collided with a British European Airways Viking was received at British Headquarters here today, but its contents were not disclosed.

No information has yet been disclosed of the requirements, contained in the note sent to Marshal Sokolovsky, the Soviet Military Governor, yesterday.

A British spokesman said today he could give no indication when the exchange would be made public.

Earlier today, Russian allegations that the Viking broke flying regulations when it "suddenly broke out of a cloudbank" were immediately denied by British officials today.

The account given by a Soviet inquiry commission was "palpably untrue," they said.

Against this background of official controversy, the inquest of the 14 people who died in the Viking opened at a hospital in Spandau, in the British sector of Berlin, but was adjourned sine die after taking evidence of identification only.

Eight of the victims were being flown to Britain today in a Dakota for burial. Two more Britons will be cremated and two others buried here.

AGENCY'S CONTENTIONS

The British authorities were today still awaiting a reply from Marshal Vassili Sokolovsky, to a note from the British Military Governor, General Sir Brian Robertson, setting out the condition for a commission of inquiry into the crash.

The Soviet-licensed German news agency said today that a 1946 directive, forbidding planes to go within two miles of airfields unless cleared by the safety centre, was considered by "informed Control Council circles" to be incomplete and not precise.

The Russians had repeatedly brought up the question of revising the air regulations, but the Western representatives had refused to examine them, the agency declared. The findings of the Soviet inquiry commission, according to Taegliche Rundschau, organ of the Russian Military Government, were; (1), the Viking "shot out of a cloudbank" between 1,300 feet and 1,650 feet over the Soviet airfield of Dahlgon, five miles north of the British airport of Gatow; (2) the British Administration did not inform the Berlin safety air centre of the Viking's flight, and "consequently the safety centre could not inform the Soviet aircraft," which was about to land from a training flight.

The report urged a mixed Soviet-British inquiry commission.—Reuter.

3-Pronged Movement By Chinese Reds

Shanghai, Apr. 8.—The Communist troops, moving along three widely scattered fronts north of the Yellow River, are focusing on key points of railways radiating from Peiping—northwest into Inner Mongolia, northeast into Manchuria and south toward the Hopei provincial capital of Paoting.

The three-pronged movements coincided with an official government announcement of the evacuation of Laoyang, important Honan province rail centre south of the Yellow River.

Only minor skirmishes were reported in Inner Mongolia but at the same time it was known that the Reds were closing in on Kweisui, with some units reaching within 20 miles of that city.

The Government Headquarters in Peiping said the Reds were evading frontal engagements. In Manchuria the Reds were reportedly bearing down the area of Tahushan, 70 miles southwest of Mukden.

The Nationalists were reported to be continuing to land reinforcements at Hulutao and Chinwangtao. The reinforcements moved into Manchuria.

AIR FORCE ATTACKS

The Air Force launched a series of attacks on Tistsihar and other Red rear bases to slow down troop movements and impede repairs of railways in the Red territory.

The United Press, in a Peiping dispatch, said it was reported that Mukden military quarters predicted an allout Communist offensive against Mukden, beginning early next month

The dispatch also said the Communists were massing west of the Peiping-Paoting railway.

The announcement of the evacuation of Laoyang — which changed hands twice in the past 48 hours, explained that Laoyang was "no longer of strategic importance to the Nationalists."

A pro-Government dispatch this morning said that Fengchen was recaptured.—United Press.

Gift Parcels For MPs

London, Apr. 7.—Twenty-four parcels, "presumably containing liquor", were delivered to the House of Commons yesterday by the Polish Embassy in London. Fourteen were distributed to the Members to whom they were addressed, and the other 10 were returned.

Colonel Douglas Clifton Brown, the Speaker of the House, told Parliament today the authorities were not told about the delivery in time to stop the distribution of all the parcels. The 10 returned were accompanied by a note explaining that Parliamentary rules did not permit such gifts.

A Conservative Member, Mr Quintin Hogg, had asked if it was not contrary to the rules for a selective group of Members—who, he said, seemed to belong to one section of a political party — to receive gift parcels.

The Speaker said he would have thought it "very embarrassing" to the Members concerned. "It was very undesirable."

Mr William Gallacher, one of the two Communist Members, assured Parliament that his party had nothing to do with the matter.—Reuter.

Nine Killed In Dump Explosion

Berlin, Apr. 7.—Nine German workers were killed, three seriously and one slightly injured, in an ammunition dump explosion today at Mainsbeker, in the United States Zone, the German news service, DENA, reported.

The explosion occurred during the loading of the ammunition, which was to be blown up by order of the Military Government in accordance with the demilitarisation programme.

A solitary shell went off first, and ignited 50 tons of ammunition. The explosion was explained as being due to the bad condition of the ammunition, which was stored for years in the open.—Reuter.

Siam's Cabinet Resigns

Bangkok, Apr. 7.—The Siamese Cabinet headed by Nai Khuang Abhaiwongse, which was formed on February 25, resigned today.

Unconfirmed reports said that Field Marshal Phibul Songkram, the wartime Premier who is Commander-in-Chief, may form a new Government.

The Cabinet resignation followed all-night conferences between the Premier and his colleagues and leaders of the coup d'etat last November.

The Cabinet was set up within 48 hours of the coup d'etat on November 9. After gaining a victory in the subsequent elections, the Cabinet formally resigned on February 7 and re-formed under a caretaker basis until given proper governmental powers on February 25.—Reuter.

24-oz. Baby Dies

Norwich, Ed, Apr. 7.—The 24-ounce baby girl born to Mrs Irene Prescott on Sunday died in hospital at Norwich today.—Associated Press.

Mrs Baxter Granted Divorce

Sequel To Historic Lords Decision

London, Apr. 7.—Childless Mrs Gwendoline Rosina Baxter was granted a decree nisi today in a sequel to an historic decision in the House of Lords that constant use of contraceptives did not nullify a marriage.

Mrs Baxter was awarded her decree in the divorce court on the grounds that her husband had deserted her.

The husband Charles Frederick Baxter did not defend the suit.

Previously Mr Baxter had sued unsuccessfully for nullity of the marriage on the grounds that his wife's insistence on the use of contraceptives amounted to wilful refusal to consummate the marriage.

He lost his case in the lower courts and appealed to the House of Lords, Britain's highest court. The Lords refused his appeal ruling that intercourse consummated the marriage with or without contraceptives.

The Baxters had been married since January 1934.—Associated Press.

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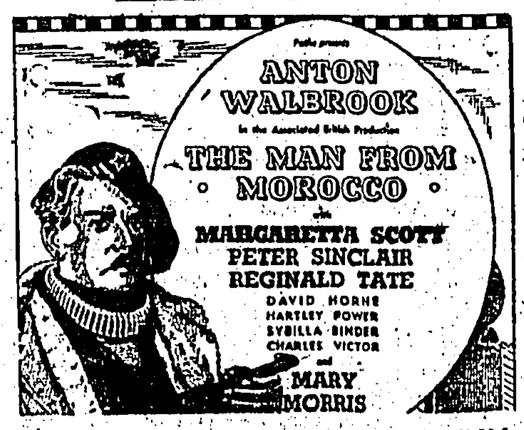
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STARTS SATURDAY: ERROL FLYNN in "NEVER SAY GOODBYE" WARNER'S ROMANTIC SMASH!

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice To Shareholders

ADOPTION OF NEW ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that an **Extraordinary General Meeting** of the Members of this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Wednesday, 28th April, 1948, at 12.15 p.m., or at such time as the Ordinary Annual Meeting of Members to be held at the same place at Noon shall terminate, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Special Resolution:—

"That the New Articles of Association produced to the Meeting, and for the purpose of identification subscribed by David Fortune Landale, Chairman of the Company and of the Meeting, be adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all existing Articles of Association of the Company."

A copy of the Proposed New Articles can be inspected by any Shareholder at the Offices of the Company during the usual office hours.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. E. TERRY,
Manager and Secretary.
Hongkong, 5th April, 1948.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice To Shareholders

Ordinary Annual Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the Fifty-seventh Ordinary Annual Meeting of the Members of the Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Wednesday, 28th April, 1948, at Noon, to receive and consider the Report of the Board of Directors and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1947, to elect Directors and to appoint Auditors.

Closing of Transfer Books

Notice is also given that the Register of Members and Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 15th April, 1948, to 28th April, 1948, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. E. TERRY,
Manager and Secretary.
Hongkong, 5th April, 1948.

NOTICE

HONGKONG ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION

Applications are invited for the post of Secretary. Preference will be given to applicants with secretarial and organizing experience. A knowledge of both English and Chinese is essential. Quarters will be provided if necessary. Applications stating qualifications, experience and salary required, should be forwarded to the undersigned not later than 22nd April, 1948.

S. N. CHAU,
Chairman.
Hongkong Anti-Tuberculosis Association,
China Building, 1st Floor,
Hongkong.

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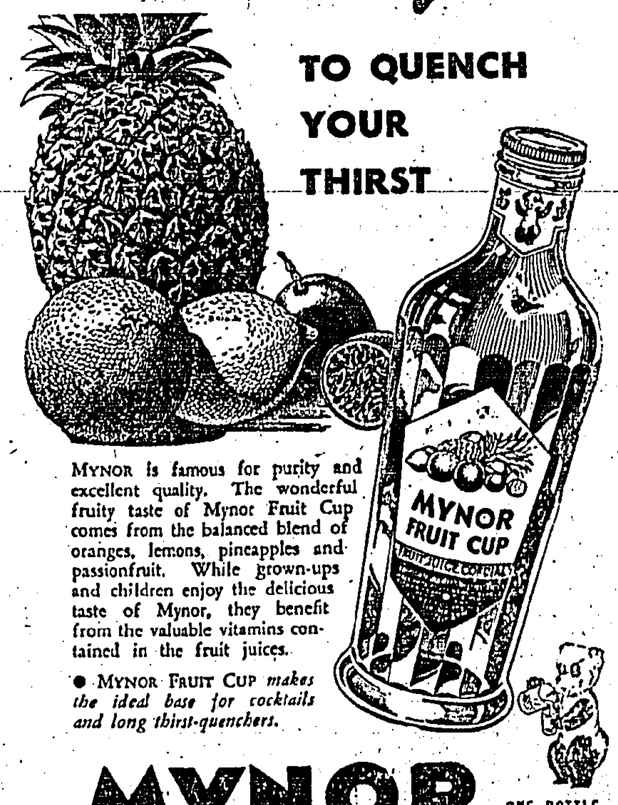
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